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SHIRTS.—Best 4-fold Linen Fronts, &c., 35s. 6d. per half-doz. (to measure, 2s. extra).
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"Earl RUSSELL communicated to the College of Physicians that he received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Manilla, to the effect that Cholera has been raging fearfully, and that the ONLY remedy of any service was CHLORODYNE."—See "Lancet," 1st December, 1864.

CAUTION.—BEWARE OF PIRACY AND IMITATIONS.

CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated that Dr. J. Collis Browne was, undoubtedly, the Inventor of Chlorodyne; that the story of the Defendant, Freeman, was deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to say, had been sworn to."—See "Times," 13th July, 1864.

Sold in Bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. each. None is genuine without the words "Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the Government stamp. Overwhelming Medical Testimony accompanies each bottle.

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AS LADY-HOUSEKEEPER.—A Widow (34) desires a RE-ENGAGEMENT. Thoroughly experienced, cheerful, and of good birth and education.—Mrs. G., 16, Oak-villas, Lullington-road, Anerley, S.E.

A LADY strongly recommends a LADY-HOUSEKEEPER, whom she knows from experience to be an excellent manager, accustomed to children. Highest references. Address Taylor, Showle Court, Ledbury, Herefordshire.

WANTED, a good HOUSEMAID, for quiet country house 33 miles from London, where parlour-maid and useful maid are kept. Help till soon. Churchwoman, good sewer. £17; all found but beer. Age 22 to 24. Address Mrs. E., Mr. Hawkes, Ironmonger, Reading.

GENERAL SERVANT, COOK, and HOUSEMAID WANTED. Good wages.—Rev. A. Langdon, High Bickington, North Devon.

WANTED, thorough good COOK for the country. Age twenty-eight. Wages £25 to £30. Address Mrs. H. Barclay, Ashleigh, Dorking.

CAN any Lady recommend, for a quiet country vicarage, a good plain COOK and GENERAL SERVANT? Also a HOUSEMAID. No children. Outdoor man kept. Neither baking nor dairy. Address, with all particulars, Mrs. Gallwey, Welford Vicarage, Rugby.

GOOD COOK WANTED, by 2nd April, in a gentleman's family. Assistance given. Good wages. Good character indispensable. Apply to M. M., Woodlynch, Hornsey-lane, N.

WANTED, good plain COOK. A kitchen-maid from under a good cook not objected to. Address Housekeeper, Thenford, Banbury.

WANTED, for a family in Bedford, good plain COOK, thorough HOUSE and PARLOUR MAID, and UNDER-HOUSEMAID, to assist in kitchen in the afternoons. All found. State wages. Address Mrs. Field, 4, St. Leonard's, York.

WANTED, a GROOM-GARDENER. Good character. Address J. P., Cucklington Rectory, Wincanton, Somerset.

WANTED, in a Clergyman's family in the country, a good plain COOK. Reliable. An early riser indispensable. A good kitchen-maid not objected to. Three in family. Liberal wages to a competent person. No beer. Assistance given. Address Mrs. Terrot, Wispington Vicarage, Horncastle.

COOK-HOUSEKEEPER WANTED, for a family in Cumberland. A good cook and experienced manager. One who values the privileges of a Christian home preferred. Must be an abstainer. Good wages. State age.—Mr. Box, Post-office, Carlisle.

CAN any Lady recommend a KITCHEN-MAID, who has been out before? Wages £12. Address Mrs. Edward Newdigate, Dover.

WANTED, by March 15th, an UPPER also an UNDER, LAUNDRY-MAID. Experienced, strong servants. Good wages given. State age, wages, references. Apply to Mrs. Elwes, Colesborne, Cheltenham.

WANTED, a single MAN, about thirty, who understands a garden, and can take care of a horse and trap. Apply, stating wages, age, and references, to Rector of Dibden, Southampton.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—Both Houses met on Tuesday. In the Senate M. de Gavardie, Legitimist, commented on the "new and painful spectacle" of French jurymen refusing to swear by the name of God, and this at the very time when the English House of Commons was showing its respect for God. No fine, moreover, had been enforced against them, as ought to have been done, and they had simply been discharged. One juryman who objected to capital punishment, and on that ground refused to be sworn, had, however, been fined, and this example should have been followed. Liberty of conscience, indeed, was invoked, but this had nothing to do with it, and it was impossible to deny the existence of a higher being than man. In all languages an oath signified an appeal to the Divinity, and if Freethinkers regarded this as a concession they should remember that Christians were constantly making much more painful ones. M. Floquet's permission was now necessary, "Pour laisser sortir notre Dieu." Jesus Christ could not be carried to the dying in the hospitals without such permission. Christians, moreover, did not object when sworn to use the words "Et devant les hommes," though this was an empty phrase. France was hurrying to the abyss; her military spirit was declining; attachment to the flag, a temporary makeshift for religion, was dying out; and a bad example was set at the top of the scale, for in religious ceremonies at Notre Dame the Government seats were empty, whereas funerals, from which the cross was banished, were loaded with honours. He concluded by asking what the Cabinet intended to do. M. Humbert replied that this was a delicate question. Law and conscience had to be reconciled. Exaggeration and notoriety would simply stimulate Radical demonstrations or ambitions for martyrdom, not perhaps much worthy of respect. He himself was an upholder of oaths and an adversary of non-jurors, but it was for the tribunals to construe the law in a reasonable and acceptable way. At Dix the Judge, while pronouncing no fine, declared the juryman unworthy to act, and it was now too late to carry the matter to the *Cour de Cassation*. If the stir made about such incidents rendered them frequent he should have to consider what course to take, but it was for the tribunals to administer the law as it stood. After this vague reply, M. Gavardie thanked M. Humbert for his excellent intentions, but twitted him with not acting up to them. The English House of Commons had set an example—here M. Schœlcher remarked that English public opinion was against Mr. Bradlaugh's expulsion—and he urged that the Public Prosecutor should be directed to demand the enforcement of the fine. The subject then dropped, no allusion being made to the Bill before the other House for expunging the words "Devant Dieu," and for removing the crucifixes from courts of justice. In the Chamber, M. Beauquier presented a Bill repealing the law against assuming sham titles of nobility, and M. Waldeck-Rousseau a Bill on limited companies. The latter measure repeals the prohibition of time bargains, forbids companies to speculate in their own shares, and requires shares to be half paid-up before they can be quoted on the Bourse.

This refusal of foremen of juries to swear "devant Dieu" is attributed by the *Française* to the Grand Orient Freemasons. It regards this as the corollary of their having expunged from their statutes the mention of the "Great Architect of the Universe.' The Reactionary papers insist on the enforcement of the oath, while most of the Republican papers hold up the Bradlaugh difficulty as an example to be avoided, and protest against any religious belief being imposed on the discharge of a civil duty. The *Temps*, however, seeks to explain away the phrase, "devant Dieu," as not necessarily implying any positive belief, but capable of a philosophic construction, and it deprecates protests against this formality. It suggests, moreover, that if the word "conscience" were allowed to be substituted for "God" a recalcitrant man might plead that he did not believe in conscience.

At the Seine Assizes on Monday, Emile Florion, 23, weaver, was sentenced to twenty years' hard labour for firing at a doctor at Neuilly. His original design was to assassinate M. Gambetta as a protest against middle-class ascendency. He set out on foot from Rheims, last October, with a revolver, and for three days prowled about the Palais Bourbon; but, M. Gambetta not being visible, he resolved to shoot the first rich-looking man he met. He accordingly fired at Dr. Meymar, whom he did not know, but who wore a foreign decoration, and then attempted suicide. Happily, Dr. Meymar's face was merely grazed. The evidence showed that the prisoner had taken part in strikes, read Socialistic papers, had been dismissed by his employers for sullenness or insubordination, and had determined to kill one of those men—M. Gambetta, M. Grévy, or M. Ferry, for instance—whom he described as fattening on the sweat of the masses. He justified his act on the ground that artisans had no other weapon against their oppressors. Dr. Lasseque pronounced him perfectly sane. On the sentence being delivered the prisoner exclaimed, "I quite expected it. You (the jury) are all bribed. 'Vive la Révolution Sociale!'"

GERMANY.—The official *Reichsanzeiger* publishes a formal account of the special mission to Constantinople with the Order of the Black Eagle for the Sultan. The following is the text of the words in which Prince Radziwill addressed his Majesty:—

Sire,—The Emperor, my august master, having been pleased to charge me with the task of conveying to your Imperial Majesty the insignia of his Royal Order of the Black Eagle, I am happy to be able to acquit myself of this high mission. At the same time, I have the honour to present to your Majesty two letters which the Emperor, my august master, confided to me, while commanding me to express to you the sentiments of constant friendship for your Majesty which animate the Emperor. Sire, while congratulating myself on the distinguished honour thus conferred upon me by the favour of my Sovereign, I deposit at the feet of your Majesty's throne all the good wishes I feel for the welfare of your august person and the prosperity of your reign.

To this the Sultan replied:—

I receive with pleasure these marks of the high and sincere friendship which His Majesty the Emperor has been good enough to show me. In selecting His Majesty the Emperor as the first Sovereign to whom we offered our Order of the Imtias, the greatest in our Empire, we wished to express and testify the sentiments of high respect and sincere esteem with which we are animated towards the august person of His Majesty the Emperor, our venerated friend. The reception of the two Imperial letters—one touching the satisfaction of the Emperor with respect to our offer of the Order of the Imtias, and the other referring to your Embassy in Mission Extraordinary to us, has given us pleasure not less lively. It being our very sincere desire to maintain and consolidate the friendly relations already existing between our two Empires we shall not fail to seek and put into execution every means of realising this aim in a still higher degree. I am likewise happy to have made on this occasion the acquaintance of a person so noble and beloved by His Majesty the Emperor as yourself.

The Sultan was further gratified by the receipt of photographs of their German Majesties and some views of Coblentz, the favourite summer resort of the Empress.

RUSSIA.—Telegrams from St. Petersburg give the following account of the concluding acts of the great Nihilist trial which has just been brought to a termination in the Russian capital. On Saturday and Sunday the sittings of the Court were taken up entirely by the speeches of the counsel for the defence and the final remarks of the accused. The addresses of MM. Spassovitch, Gerard and Buimischtrow in behalf of their clients were excellent; but the speech of the counsel for Emeljanoff—M. Alexandroff, well-known for his defence of Vera Sassulitch—excited the greatest admiration. It is declared by the members of the St. Petersburg Bar that since the introduction of the new system of judicial procedure no such brilliant speech has been heard in any Russian court of justice. The barristers who heard the oration say it was distinguished alike for earnestness, deep feeling, and fearlessness. M. Alexandroff, the advocate in question, protested strongly against the right of the Public Prosecutor to charge Emeljanoff, on the ground of his own confession at the preliminary examination, with complicity in the death of the late Emperor, in the face of the fact that at the present trial it had been proved that he had no part in the assassination. The counsel next pointed to the laws of the Czar Alexis Michailovitch, and affirmed that in their judicial principles they were far more humane than those which had been cited by the Public Prosecutor in the present action. The Code of Alexis Michailovitch expressly laid it down that in criminal trials no person should ever be condemned on the sole ground of his own confession, whether made at the preliminary examination or before the duly constituted Court. He (M. Alexandroff) did not ask the Public Prosecutor to show any special humanity of feeling. He merely wished that the principles of the judicial reforms which had been bequeathed to Russia by the deceased Czar should not be forgotten. For his own part he regarded himself as in some sort the testamentary executor of that Sovereign, and as such he recommended the Public Prosecutor and the Court, in considering the circumstances of the present trial, to cast a frequent glance at the inheritance of which he had spoken. Pointing to the prisoners, M. Alexandroff said he considered them to be in a certain respect diseased, yet honourable and respectable; and he felt that if only regicide were excluded from their doctrines he himself and many others fully shared their opinions. Touching the question how Emeljanoff could have brought himself to tell a deliberate falsehood when, at his preliminary examination, he confessed his share in the assassination of the Emperor Alexander II.—a confession which he had subsequently withdrawn—M. Alexandroff said that, as the counsel for the prisoner, he felt bound to bear witness that his client had not been forced by the application of torture to make the avowals he had made. Reports current in Russia as well as abroad averred that political criminals were tortured and thus compelled to make admissions of their guilt; but, as regarded Emeljanoff, he denied emphatically that resort had been had to any such proceeding, and, as his counsel, he had the best means of knowing the truth. But there was good reason to complain of the hateful system by which the preliminary examinations in political cases were conducted by gendarmes. At this point the President of the Court interrupted the speaker, and remarked that at all the preliminary examinations in the present case the Assistant Procurator-General, M. Dobrjinsky, had been present. The counsel replied that that fact proved nothing. M. Dobrjinsky was probably hand in glove with the gendarmerie, and was equally anxious to distinguish himself by his zeal for the public service. While the other counsel for the defence were addressing the Court, the President several times interrupted them; but it was generally acknowledged that, in spite of the difficult position in which they were placed, all the advocates for the prisoners issued from the trial with dignity. The Minister of Justice expressed his satisfaction at the devotion to their clients' cause which all the counsel had shown, and those of the prisoners who had refused to be represented by advocates openly expressed their regret at their determination. The final words of the numerous prisoners were brief. The President would not permit them to speak for any length of time, and interrupted them repeatedly. He did so while the prisoner Kolotkewitsch was speaking, and the latter thereupon said he would bow to the immense power of the President, which closed his mouth. He would accordingly renounce his right of addressing the Court further. Just before the sentence of the Court was pronounced Kletotschnikoff, one of the accused, suddenly sprang towards Merkuloff, the prisoner who has on several occasions during the trial given information against the Nihilists, and gave him a box on the ear, saying, "Take that from me and my fellow-prisoners." The gendarmes, who noticed his sudden movement, threw themselves upon Kletotschnikoff, but they were too late to arrest the blow. It was midnight before the judgment of the Court was delivered. As already announced, ten of the accused, including the woman Lebedeff, were sentenced to be hanged. All of these were found guilty of complicity in the assassination of the Emperor Alexander II. Their names are as follows: Michaeloff, Kolotkewitsch, Trigoni, Sujanoff, Issajeff, Kletotschnikoff, Emeljanoff, Barannikoff, and Merkuloff. Lustig was condemned to four years', and the remainder to indefinite terms of penal servitude. It is reported that the capital sentence will be commuted to penal servitude.

ITALY.—The Pope's reply to the address presented by the Belgian pilgrims, published in the Clerical journals, is characterised by great calmness and moderation of tone. In it he praises the Belgian people for their constancy in maintaining the Faith. They have, he says, understood that religion is the strongest of socialties, not only between man and God, but also between man and man; that to remain faithful to religion and strive to preserve its legitimate influence is to serve their country itself by doubling its strength and procuring for it true happiness. Hence their pacific struggles and combats in connection with the educational question, and the multiplication of pious and charitable institutions. Speaking of the time when he was Pontifical Nuncio in Belgium, he said that what he had then seen had united him to them in bonds of affection which could never be broken, and the proofs of attachment he had then received had been such as to remain fresh in his memory, notwithstanding the long lapse of years; and, referring to the rupture of diplomatic relations between Belgium and the Holy See, he said that the intimate ties which bound him personally to their country had doubled the grief recent events had caused him. He concluded:—

As regards yourselves, dear children, you know what are your duties in these sad times, when the interests of the Faith are at stake. You will fulfil them with prudence no less than with courage and generosity. In your strivings to protect the interests of religion you will love to keep your looks fixed on this Apostolic See and on your worthy Bishops, who will by their zeal and wisdom know how to ward off dangers, or at any rate to attenuate their consequences. It is in such concord between the faithful and their pastors that the hopes of success are to be found.

Then, calling upon God to strengthen that union, he conferred upon them his Apostolic benediction.

The Roman papers reproduce from the *Siglo Futuro* of Madrid the letter Cardinal Jacobini had, by command of the Pope, written to Cardinal Moreno, Archbishop of Toledo, on the subject of the Spanish pilgrimage. His Eminence writes, in effect, that the enthusiasm with which the idea of a national pilgrimage from Catholic Spain was received gave good reasons for expecting that the demonstration of faith and adhesion to the Holy See would have been unusually splendid and numerous, but inasmuch as on the one hand such an extraordinary concourse of strangers to Rome would, in existing circumstances, be a cause of preoccupation and fear, and as on the other hand differences had arisen in some dioceses regarding the constitution of the organising Giunta and other matters, which were calculated to diminish that concord and unanimity which could alone constitute the forceand splendour of such a demonstration on the part of the great Catholic family, his Holiness, while lauding the zeal of the promoters and expressing his gratitude for what they had co-operated to accomplish, considered that the difficulties would be removed by substituting for the national pilgrimage intended a series of regional pilgrimages, which, organised under the direction of the Bishop of each province and accompanied by their respective dioceses, could come to Rome successively. By these means discord would be prevented, while all who had intended to join the national pilgrimage would have an opportunity of manifesting their filial devotion to the Pope. These views of his Holiness Cardinal Jacobini requests Cardinal Moreno to make known to the promoters of the pilgrimage, and to arrange with the respective Bishops regarding the separate pilgrimages and the order in which they shall visit Rome.

From the corrected report now issued by the Roman Board of Statistics it appears that the population of the city of Rome numbered at midnight on the 31st of December last 167,386 males and 133,081 females, excluding 2,724 males and 1,211 females who were absent—total, 304,402 inhabitants, divided into 53,235 families. The increase of population since December, 1871, was 55,983 souls.

TUNIS.—The superior officers of the expeditionary force have been requested to state if they desire to form part of a permanent *corps d'occupation*.

The Roman Catholic Christians at Tunis have for more than a century possessed a large burial ground opposite the French Residency. All the principal Italian and Maltese families possess vaults therein, which have been purchased as freehold property. The Archbishop of Algiers, Lavigerie, who is now styled Apostolic Administrator in Tunis, has suddenly propounded a scheme for closing the cemetery and removing the remains interred in it to a place *extra muros*, and states that if the Bey gives him permission he shall immediately put his plan into execution. The Archbishop has endeavoured to induce the Maltese to consent to his plan, but it will be strongly opposed, it is thought, by the Italian Government. Comparatively few French families are interested in the question. It is generally believed that it is intended to utilise the site for ordinary building purposes, as it is worth at least 2,000,000f. This idea encourages the opponents of the measure, and the coming debate in the Sanitary Council on the subject will be of a very acrimonious nature.

A telegram from Sfax, dated the 28th ult., reports:—

"Last night a band of 600 mounted Arabs attacked unexpectedly two tribes which had submitted to the French in the immediate vicinity of this town. They succeeded in cutting the telegraph to Gabes. The French have given out arms to the inhabitants of Mahres to defend themselves against further attacks of the insurgents. The numbers of armed Arabs on the frontier are daily increasing, and their *razzias* are becoming more frequent."

AMERICA.—Memorial services for President Garfield were held in the Representative Chamber at Washington on Monday, when Mr. Blaine delivered an eulogistic oration extending over an hour and a half. There have been very extensive inundations in the western and south-western States of America, and many thousands of people are being supported by Government aid.

AUSTRIA.—Telegrams from Vienna report a constant succession of engagements between the Austrian troops and the Herzegovinian insurgents. The rebels are being driven back on all sides, but not without serious loss to their assailants. Great distress is already being felt in some districts owing to the provisions having been seized by the insurgent bands. According to the statements of correspondents in the disturbed districts, the insurgents still keep up the barbarous custom of mutilating their prisoners and the dead. They even cut off the heads of their own dead if unable to carry them away. In many villages the inhabitants have abandoned their homes, and now make common cause with the insurgents. According to the *Presse* of Vienna, twenty-eight engagements and skirmishes took place between the 16th and 28th of February. The Austrian losses were 116 men killed and wounded. In each case the insurgents were compelled to retreat.

ZANZIBAR.—Our Correspondent writes:—

Miss H. Smith, Miss Worsfold, and Miss Sherratt, left for Zanzibar, December 28th, 1881, after a farewell celebration of the Lord's Supper at St. Peter's, Eaton Square, that morning. Mr. Johnson, while absent on a preaching tour last August, had his house sacked and his property destroyed by Mataka's people, who were angry at the interference with their slave caravans by Captain Foote (H.M.S. *Ruby*). The mission has thus lost £200. Mr. Johnson has gone to another place on the Lake Nyassa (Matthew x. 23.) Archdeacon Farler writes from Magila: "Charley Kibwana's farm adjoins ours. I asked leave to quarry some stone. His farm was cut up. I offered him a garment and a dollar for his kindness in giving us leave. He refused to take it, saying 'What is this for? Why will you not let me share in the work for God? Am I not a Christian? Have I no part in this work? Shall I take money for this stone? God placed the stone there, and shall it not be used to build a church for His honour? I know it is my farm; but I have been so glad to do anything towards building the church I will not take a gift. I want to share in building our church.'" We have eight or ten native Christians here that I think really dwell in Christ and Christ in them—quiet, good men, who say little, but live as Christians should live. A recital on the organ in the church at Zanzibar was given to some eighty Arab ladies. A gallery in the church is earnestly desired for these, that they may join in Christian worship without violently breaking through their national customs.

IRELAND UNDER MR. GLADSTONE.

Between ten and eleven o'clock on Saturday night a man was found by the police, in a place called Skipper's-alley, Dublin, groaning and bleeding profusely from bullet wounds in the head. He was removed to Jervis-street Hospital, when life was found to be extinct. The deceased was afterwards identified as Bernard Bailey, who gave the information which enabled the police to make important seizures of arms in Brabazon-street and Cross Kevin-street in December last, in connection with which three men were originally charged with treason-felony, but the charge was abandoned, and on the men being released they were re-arrested as suspects. The deceased was found to have two bullet wounds in the head. In one instance the ball entered on the left side of the neck a little behind the ear, piercing the brain. The other struck in on the right cheek, shattering the jawbone and greatly disfiguring the face. The fact that no shots were heard leads to the surmise that air guns may have been used. Bailey has been under police protection since the arrests consequent on his information were made, until last week, when, at his own request, it was withdrawn.

The authorities have issued proclamations offering a reward of £500 for such public information as will lead to the detection of the murderers of Bernard Bailey, and £400, with a free pardon, for private information that shall lead to the same result, to any one but the actual assassin.

The funeral of Bernard Bailey took place in Glasnevin cemetery on Wednesday. It was attended by only the wife and children of the murdered man and one or two other persons—a significant fact. In connection with the murder it is reported that an attempt was made on Tuesday night to shoot another man named M'Carthy, as he had pointed out a person drinking with two others in a public-house in Earl-street as the man who shot Bailey. He was followed by the three men, one of whom fired a revolver at him, and a ball whizzed over his head. There are conflicting reports on the subject, and no trustworthy information can at present be obtained.

The adjourned inquest as to the death of Bailey took place on Wednesday. A large crowd collected outside the morgue. Dr. Chance, resident surgeon at Jervis-street Hospital, deposed that on Saturday night the deceased was brought dead to the hospital. There were two wounds on the face and one on the back of the neck. He came to the conclusion that they were gunshot wounds. In conjunction with Dr. Egan, he made a *post-mortem* examination. On the back part of the right cheek they found a wound which he believed to have been caused by the entrance of a bullet. There was another wound on the left side of the back of the neck. The second bone of the spine was slightly broken. In the canal of the spine they found the bullet produced. The bullet had crushed and divided the spinal cord and must have caused instantaneous death. He thought that the minor wound had been inflicted first, and that the person who gave the fatal wound stood behind and to the left. He thought that the same person could have fired both shots. Dr. Egan gave similar testimony. He also believed that both shots could have been inflicted by one person, but he could form no decided opinion. John M'Carthy, a young man about 20 years of age, deposed that he lived at 13, Cook-street. At about a quarter to 10 o'clock on Saturday night he was looking out of the lobby window, which looked into Skipper's-alley. He went there because he heard a shot. A man called out "Fire," and the second shot was discharged. Immediately afterwards he saw a man run out of the lane with his hand behind his back. There were four or five other men with him. They ran in different directions. The jury found a verdict to the effect that Bailey's death was "caused by one of two gunshot wounds wilfully inflicted upon him by some person or persons unknown." The foreman asked whether it was necessary that they should put in a rider to the effect that they abhorred the deed. The coroner thought it unnecessary.

On Sunday evening two young men named M'Hale, residing at Ballyvary, near Balla, were arrested on the charge of having arms and ammunition in their possession without a licence. The man Mullany, in whose house some arms and ammunition were found on Saturday, was also arrested on the same charge.

A party of sixteen men, armed and disguised, attacked a farmer's house at Feakle, county Clare, on Sunday morning. They entered the house,

searched for a candle, but could not find one. They then went to a neighbouring house, procured a light, and returning to the house they entered first, placed the farmer on his knees, and shot him in the legs. His son, who was concealed under a bed, was dragged out and stabbed three times in the head. Another son, who had rushed for concealment to another part of the house, attempted to run out, when some of the party who remained outside on guard fired at and killed him. The farmer was suspected of having paid his rent. He has since died from his wounds.

A steward's house at Garryduff, the property of Mr. Ferguson, Q.C., county court judge, was on Sunday night maliciously burned to the ground.

An inquest has been held on the body of the man Bailey who was shot in Skipper's-alley, Dublin, on Saturday night. The coroner, Dr. Whyte, remarked to the jury that he regarded the crime as the natural and melancholy outcome of the unsuppressed rowdyism that was at present prevalent in the city, to the disgrace of all of them. A more atrocious murder had never taken place in Dublin. Mrs. Bailey and a man named Brophy having given evidence, the inquiry was adjourned.

At Bantry, county Cork, a private magisterial inquiry was held into the case of Daniel Lehane, who is charged with soliciting to murder. The principal witness was a man named Michael Sheridan, who alleged that Lehane offered to pay him £12 to murder Mr. Robert H. White, a landlord in the west of the county; but he (Sheridan) thought the amount too small, and did not carry out the crime. The prisoner was committed for trial, bail being refused.

Mr. Forster arrived at Limerick on Wednesday quite unexpectedly, and proceeded to the residence of Mr. Clifford Lloyd, R.M., with whom and Mr. Henry, the county inspector, he remained in consultation for nearly two hours. Mr. Forster, accompanied by Mr. Lloyd, then walked through some of the principal streets of the city. Policemen in uniform and plain clothes, as well as several detectives, kept watch on both gentlemen, who in the evening, guarded by a detachment of armed constabulary, drove from Limerick to Tulla. Various reasons are assigned for the appearance of Mr. Forster in Limerick, but it is stated that the recent reported disturbance in the Tulla district, and the report about an anticipated rising in the neighbourhood, are the main causes. The result of Mr. Forster's inquiries on the actual scene of the late outrages is anxiously awaited. The latest reports state that there is much excitement all over East Clare, and that great uneasiness prevails among the community there.

The Irish Land League Central Council has called a convention to meet in Washington on April 12. The treasurer reports that 201,233dols. were sent to the Irish Land League treasurer from January 13, 1881, to February 14, 1882.

The London correspondent of the *Newcastle Chronicle* says:—Instead of moderating their repressive policy, the Executive are increasing it. An unusually large number of people have been arrested during the last few days, amongst them a number of lads. I may mention a case of some local interest as illustrating the careless way in which arrests under the Coercion Act are effected. When Mr. Forster was getting this measure passed, he promised distinctly that no man should ever be imprisoned under it without the merits of the case being investigated. Mr. Michael J. Kelly, who was lately a teacher in Newcastle, and I believe is well known in your town, is now confined as a suspect in Armagh Gaol. While visiting a relative at Warrenpoint some weeks ago, he was taken into custody upon a warrant issued for a Mr. J. J. Kelly, of Newry. Now Mr. J. J. Kelly, of Newry, and Mr. M. J. Kelly, of Newcastle, are two very different persons; and yet the police have taken Mr. Michael Kelly, placed him in prison, and kept him there under a warrant bearing another man's name. This is the rough and ready way in which the philanthropic Irish Secretary endorses his ukases. If the Castle meant to arrest Mr. Michael Kelly, it might be supposed that they would have issued a warrant in his own name. He has been locked up; no appeal has been allowed, no remonstrance permitted, and there he remains. Mr. Barry intends to call attention to the question in the House on Friday next.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Monday.

Their Lordships had a twenty minutes' sitting, in the course of which Lord Lamington gave notice that on Monday he would call attention to the Royal charter granted on the 8th November last to the North British Borneo Company, and petitions were presented by Lord Derby and Lord Shaftesbury respectively, in favour of the reform of the law affecting married women's property and the opening of museums on Sundays.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday.

An aspect of curiosity exhibited itself everywhere on the assembling of the Commons. Even at prayers the House was crowded, and long before the actual business began the Peers' Gallery was crowded to overflowing, the Prince of Wales and Prince Teck occupying central places above the clock. Questions were almost over when the Premier entered the House, emerging from the gloom behind the Speaker's chair. He was dutifully cheered by his followers, but looked weary and careworn. This aspect, however, soon disappeared when he rose to move his resolution postponing the orders of the day till after his motion dealing with the Lords' Committee of Inquiry into the working of the Land Act had been disposed of. The right hon. gentleman was then buoyant and confident. Reserving his right of speaking at length on his motion till after he had heard some statement as to the course the Opposition would adopt, he simply stated that the Government could not waive its objection to any form of inquiry at the present time into the judicial administration of the Land Act. To this Sir Stafford Northcote replied by stating that one of his reasons for giving notice of opposition to the postponement of the orders was his desire to have full explanations from the Government as to the way in which their business was to be arranged. On this point he had thought that they especially had a right to ask why the Government had requested the House to interrupt the consideration of the new rules. This was a question which he still regarded as important; but he also pointed out that if, as had been alleged, an exhibition of Parliamentary disagreement would have an injurious effect in Ireland, the action of the Premier was certainly such as to emphasise that disagreement, or even to make an exhibition of disagreement where none need have existed. He denied that a Committee of Inquiry was necessarily hostile in its character, and so far as interference with the judicial functions of the Land Commission was concerned, he was sure that the Committee would be ready to receive representations on this or any other subject. Under the circumstances, therefore, he concluded by declaring that he would throw on the Government the responsibility of creating a collision between the two Houses. The declaration was received with mixed demonstrations from the Opposition and Government benches, but the Premier, regarding it as a signal of a less hostile attitude in respect to the postponement of the orders, again stepped forward, doubtless hoping to shorten the discussion by at once excercising his right to reply. He justified the postponement of the discussion on the new rules by asserting that matters of urgency must be superseded by matters of greater urgency. The action of their Lordships, in his opinion, urgently required consideration, for a committee could not be regarded as otherwise than hostile. It was true, as was suggested, that the Government might make representations to the Committee; but it was not for a Government charged with primary responsibility to make recommendations to an irresponsible body. The only recommendation, in fact, they could make was in relation to the judicial administration of the Land Act, and it would hardly be possible for any committee to avoid trenching upon that part of the question. Following the Premier, Mr. Newdegate accused the Government of trying to inflict a new incapacity on the House of Lords. Mr. M'Carthy asserted that inquiry was necessary, and Mr. Chaplin pointed to the many evidences that existed inside and outside of the House, that the Land Act had not the confidence of the Irish people. To the latter statement Mr. Shaw offered a brief denial, and after a few conversational remarks in opposition to the motion from Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Reginald Yorke, Mr. Sexton, and Mr. Warton, the division was taken, Messrs. Redmond and Richard Power acting as tellers against the Government, and the motion being carried by 300 against 167.

The way having thus been cleared by the division, the Premier at once rose to propose his resolution condemning inquiry into the working of the Land Act. With some ambiguity of utterance he attempted to convince hon. members that the motion was not one of censure upon the other House, and with a great torturing of precedents he endeavoured to justify the course the Government adopted in coming into conflict with the Lords. The question, he said, was one of policy. They looked upon the Act as the law of the land, and as its working necessarily took the character of judicial administration, they believed that inquiry at this moment was calculated to defeat its objects and injure the best interests of society. Upon this text he lengthily dilated, not denying the right of their Lordships to appoint a committee, but darkly and mysteriously hinting that the course was one that might lead to national disaster.

Mr. Gibson, loudly cheered by the Opposition, followed, moving the previous question. With great point he reminded the House of the fact that in the Lords the protest that was offered was all along extremely feeble, and he asked why, if the appointment of a committee was so objectionable, no amendment was moved in the other place. It was said on the one hand that a resolution for an inquiry was expedient, and on the other that it was inexpedient, but no element of social disorder or danger to the national safety was ever hinted at by the representatives of the Government in the Upper House. Under such circumstances the notice of motion given by the Premier originally took everybody by surprise, but no doubt the motion and the meeting of the Liberal party which had been held that day was a part of the new tactics of the Premier, by which he sought to restore union amongst his followers. He powerfully urged that the action taken by the Government was not the wisest method of securing the carrying out of their own views, the object of which was to show that the inquiry did not meet with their approval, and that those who were engaged in administering the Land Act had the Government behind them. The latter fact they had already established by refusing to serve upon the Committee, and if after that, at any future time, the Premier had desired to make a statement of the views of the Government, he would have had no difficulty in finding an opportunity. Under all the circumstances, he denied that the inquiry would involve any real interference with the successful working of the Land Act, and, in conclusion, he asserted that the present resolution would be regarded as an unjustifiable interference with their Lordships' constitutional rights. The discussion was continued by Lord Lymington and Sir H. Holland, who respectively supported and opposed the Government motion; by Mr. Brand, who described the Committee of Inquiry as a proposed arraignment of a judicial tribunal; and by Mr. A. Balfour, who suggested that the action of the Government was open to the suspicion that it was the result of a sudden gust of temper on the part of the Prime Minister, or that in their great game with the Land League those who were appointed to carry out the Land Act had been guilty of some move which would not bear the light of an inquiry. Mr. Givan, Sir Walter Barttelot, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Stanley Leighton, Mr. Staveley Hill, Captain Aylmer, and Mr. R. N. Fowler followed, and at about one o'clock the debate was adjourned on the motion of Mr. Sexton, Thursday being fixed for its renewal.

The report of Supply was brought up and agreed to, and the Post Cards (Reply) Bill having been read a third time and passed, leave was given to Lord Colin Campbell to bring in a Bill to Amend the Licensing Laws in Scotland; to Mr. Barran to bring in a Bill to Amend the Law of Bankruptcy; and to Sir H. Bruce to bring in a Bill to Regulate the Removal of Poor Persons.

The Attorney-General then moved for a return of the conviction of Michael Davitt, and this motion, opposed by Mr. Healy on the ground that no notice was given of it, was defended from the Government benches as perfectly usual. The return was finally agreed to, and the Attorney-General then gave notice that he would move at the next sitting that a new writ be issued for the return of a member in place of Davitt, who was incapacitated from sitting in the House. Irish members moved that the discussion should be fixed for Thursday, but this the Government resisted, the Parnellites being defeated by 61 against 10. The House then adjourned at a quarter past two.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Tuesday.

Lord Stanhope moved the second reading of the Bill to regulate the hours of labour of women in shops. He pointed out that the law as it stood did not sufficiently protect young persons, and that although in large establishments in the West-end and in districts where public opinion had made itself felt the hours of labour had been reduced, twelve and thirteen hours' daily labour were not uncommon elsewhere. The Duke of Somerset followed, sympathising with the objects of the Bill, but fearing that a reduction of hours would be accompanied by a reduction of wages. Lord Fortescue, as a free-trader, then objected to the principle of the Bill as drafted, and Lord Aberdeen, who thought the measure a step in the right direction, suggested that some amendment might be made in it. Lord Shaftesbury was afraid that the Bill would not carry into effect the recommendations of the Committee on the subject, and Lord Rosebery having pointed out that the Home Department had the subject under consideration, the Bill was withdrawn. On the motion of Lord Dalhousie, the select committee appointed last session to inquire into the state of the law relative to the protection of young girls was reappointed; and the debate on Lord Ventry's motion for a return of the judicial rents fixed by the Sub-Commissioners and Civil Bill Courts in Ireland was then resumed. Lord Carlingford, on behalf of the Government, said that the Land Commissioners were anxious to furnish information, but a return showing in a separate volume the present gross letting value of each holding as ascertained by the Commissioners could not be made without interfering with the work of the Commissioners. The motion was then negatived without a division, and at ten minutes past six the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Tuesday.

On the orders of the day being reached, the Attorney-General moved a resolution declaring Michael Davitt disqualified from taking his seat for the county Meath. This motion led to a somewhat lengthy discussion, in the course of which considerable difference of opinion was exhibited between the legal authorities and the lay members on both sides of the House as to the way in which the precedents of the cases of O'Donovan Rossa and Mitchell bore upon the case of Davitt, and as to the *modus operandi* that was being adopted to vacate the seat. Mr. Cowen, whose admiration of the patriotic convict had impelled him to draw up an amendment for an address to the Crown for Davitt's release, was cut short in the delivery of his carefully prepared speech by the intimation of the Speaker that the question of praying for the release of Davitt was not before the House. Mr. Cowen gave notice that he would move his amendment at an early day, and the discussion was then continued by Mr. Lewis, Mr. Gray, Sir W. Harcourt, Mr. Clarke, Serjeant Simon, and Sir J. Mowbray. Mr. Healy, who followed, was proceeding to refer to Davitt as quite as worthy of a seat in the House as Mr. Bradlaugh, who met with so much support from his colleagues in atheism opposite, when an hon. member ejaculated the reminder that Mr. Bradlaugh was not a convict. This, Mr. Healy replied, might be true in a technical sense, though perhaps Mr. Bradlaugh deserved conviction a great deal more than Michael Davitt. Hon. members, of course, raised loud exclamations of protest, but these were but as fuel to flame the eloquence of Mr. Healy, who went on to urge that if Davitt were really disqualified from being elected, Mr. Egan, who was next on the poll, must be considered as the member. This was a view which was also adopted by Mr. M'Carthy, who, after Mr. Mitchell-Henry had raised the ire of the Parnellites by the declaration that, unlike many of his party, Mr. Davitt, if he had come up to the bar of the House, would have been too honest to take the oath of allegiance, moved as an amendment to the Government resolution, that a committee should be appointed to inquire into the precedents bearing upon the case before the House, and to report thereupon. This was, of course, strongly resented by the Government, and Sir S. Northcote having pointed out that the Government were acting in strict accordance with the precedents laid down by the late Government in the case of O'Donovan Rossa, the House shortly after divided, and Mr. M'Carthy's amendment was rejected by 242 against 29. The House then divided on the main question, and the resolution of the Attorney-General was carried by 208 against 20. The Attorney-General then stated that, the House having declared itself as to Davitt's disqualification, the issuing of a new writ would be for the present postponed, as it appeared that there was another person (Patrick Egan) who claimed rights in reference to the seat.

The announcement of the Attorney-General was received with gratified "hears" from the Parnellites, and Mr. R. Fowler at once proceeded to move his resolution, regretting the indecision of the Government, by which Mr. Sendall was withdrawn from the appointment of Lieutenant-Governor of Natal—an appointment for which, in the opinion of the Foreign Office, he was eminently qualified. The motion was seconded by Mr. Salt, and Mr. Courtney having stated that it was in deference to the feeling of the Colonists that the Government had withdrawn Mr. Sendall's nomination as Lieutenant-Governor, and had substituted a full Governor in his place, Mr. Sclater-Booth expressed a hope that as no imputation had been cast upon Mr. Sendall the House would not be asked to divide on the motion. Immediately after the House was counted out at 8.30.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Wednesday.

The afternoon was spent in the discussion on the Law of Agricultural Distress.

Mr. Blennerhassett, in moving the second reading of a Bill for its abolition, condemned the law as wrong in principle, injurious in operation, and utterly incapable of amendment. He therefore proposed to abolish the right of distress altogether, and to place the landlord on the same footing as other creditors.

Mr. Salt opposed the Bill on the ground that the question was not sufficiently ripe for legislation without further inquiry. He admitted, however, that the altered circumstances of the times required some legislation, and, arguing that it was not a matter in which landlords were primarily interested, he said that if tenants were all moneyed men, who could spend a fortune on the land, without requiring the landlord to make all improvements, he would not need such a law. Though the agricultural system of the country might be conducted generally on commercial principles, there were exceptional circumstances about it, and believing that some change might be necessary he moved that it was inexpedient to proceed with the Bill until further evidence had been taken as to the working of the law of distress.

Mr. J. Howard supported the Bill, arguing that the present law was injurious to landlord and tenant alike as well as to the community at large. It placed the landlord in the position of a preferential creditor with a State guarantee, and while a trader might lose his capital altogether a landlord could only lose the interest on it.

The Bill was opposed by Mr. Biddell, who held that if the law of distress were abolished bills of sale must go with it; by Mr. Meldon, who predicted that it would injure the tenant by depriving him of the indulgence of his landlord; and by Mr. Akers-Douglas, who thought that the law required improvement, but that its abolition would be prejudicial to tenant farmers.

Mr. Arnold was against the law of distress for land, because it tended to enhance rent, but in regard to houses he argued that it had entirely the opposite effect.

Mr. Pell, on the other side, regarded the Bill as both impudent and imprudent, inasmuch as it took no note of the consequences of such a change and made no provision for existing contracts. At the same time he admitted that the present law went too far; but he maintained that it had been executed with extreme leniency, and to abolish it would be to hand over tenants, and landlords too, to the tender mercies of the lawyers.

Mr. A. Elliot pointed out that the change had already been made in Scotland, to the satisfaction of all parties; while Mr. Gregory maintained that the tenant farmers in England would prefer the law of distress to quarterly payment of rents, which would be required. But he also admitted the necessity of reforming the law, and especially held that there should be a two years' limit to the right of recovery.

Mr. D. Davies said that if it had not been for the protection afforded him by this law, when a small tenant farmer himself, he should never have been in that House, and he was not, therefore, inclined to give a kick at an old friend. The movement, he said, was got up solely by the large farmers, who were swallowing up the small farmers, and the change would destroy the small farmers, a class which he regarded as the backbone of the country.

Colonel Barne took the same view; and Mr. J. W. Pease strongly opposed the Bill in its present form as ruinous to thousands of tenant farmers at the present moment by destroying their credit. He pointed out, too, that it would destroy the security of mortgages on land, and ridiculed as absurd Mr. Arnold's assertion that the effect of the law of distress was to enhance rents.

Sir M. Lopes, on the same side, remarked that the agitation against the law originated outside the tenant farmers, and that the great majority of them would decidedly condemn the change. If this security were abolished, it would be replaced by others far more odious and prejudicial to the tenant; and he asked also why the change, if made at all, should not be extended to houses in towns.

Mr. Duckham and Colonel Ruggles-Brise having spoken against the Bill,

Sir W. Harcourt, after some discursive comments on the course of the debate, which he illustrated by quotations from Conservative speeches supporting the repeal of the law of hypothec, drew from it the conclusion that while the necessity for amending the law was generally admitted there was a difference as to the extent. He thought also that the debate showed great reason for doubting whether the tenant farmers generally desired the absolute repeal of the law. It was clear that as it stood the Bill could not pass, and one reason he mentioned was the entire absence of any security that the landlord should recover his land when the tenant refused to pay his rent. As the matter was not ripe, he suggested that the promoters and opponents should agree upon some mode of having a full inquiry.

Sir W. H. Dyke said that whether there were inquiry or not he could not accept the second reading of the Bill. Mr. Whitbread said he would support the second reading on the understanding that it was not carried further until after an inquiry. Mr. Chaplin pointed out that the Commission on Agriculture was examining into the subject; and Mr. Blennerhassett gave an undertaking that he would not carry the Bill beyond a second reading until the whole subject had been inquired into. Mr. Storer opposed the Bill amid loud cries for a division from the Opposition side; but in the end the Bill was talked out by Mr. Heneage, speaking from the Ministerial Bench.

The House adjourned at ten minutes to six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Thursday.

On the motion of Lord Thurlow the Post Cards (Reply) Bill, which had come up from the Commons, was read a second time, and their Lordships adjourned at a quarter-past five o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Thursday.

In answering questions on various subjects Sir C. Dilke said that no actual steps had been taken to carry out the stipulations of the Berlin Treaty with regard to reforms in Armenia, but the Government lost no opportunity of impressing on the Porte the necessity of these reforms, and the danger of neglecting them. The advance of Russia towards Sarakhs had occupied the attention of the Government, and was the subject of communication between them and the Government of Russia. He also confirmed the information that a treaty on navigation and other non-tariff matters had been signed by Lord Lyons, and he stated that the wine duties were under the consideration of the Government.

In answer to Mr. Bryce, Mr. Mundella said it would be necessary this session to introduce a Bill to carry on the work of the Endowed Schools reorgani-

sation; and in answer to Colonel Barne, Mr. Childers said the experiments with magazine rifles were still going on, and he had come to no decision as to supplying the army with them.

The adjourned debate on the Lords' inquiry into the Land Act was resumed by Mr. Sexton, who insisted that an immediate inquiry was necessary not only in the interests of the Act itself, but for the interests of good government. An inquiry by the Lords was better than no inquiry at all, and its results, he believed, would altogether differ from the anticipations of those who had originally proposed it. In the first place, it would show that further legislation was necessary to remedy the consequences of the recent judgment in Dublin, which he said had knocked the spinal column out of "Healy's clause," and it was needed to show how tenants could be saved from rack-renting while their cases were pending before the Court. Illustrating this point, he argued that at the present rate of progress it would take fourteen years to decide the cases already before the Court, and during this time rack-renting would go on and the tenants would continue to be evicted for arrears, which he estimated at half-a-year's rental of all Ireland. Inquiry, therefore, was necessary to show why the arrears clause and the leases clause had failed, while nothing had been done under the Bright clauses, and also why the Act had been fruitful of no benefit to the labourers. At present, he contended that the Land Act had produced no signs of improvement.

Sir M. Hicks-Beach remarked that the speech just delivered would be more injurious to the operation of the Land Act than any Lords' Committee, and, referring to the rumours afloat, he insisted that the Government ought to explain to the House why it was called on to go on with the debate. It was no secret, he said, that the Lords' Committee had put an interpretation on their order of reference different from that which had been assumed by the Prime Minister, and had disclaimed any intention of making the inquiry to which he said he objected. Why, then, did the Government persevere with the resolution? What was it they wanted more? The Land Act, he said, had not satisfied any party, and an inquiry into it, judiciously limited and fairly conducted, was not only unobjectionable, but was absolutely necessary. While protesting that he should be adverse to an inquiry which might seem to threaten the tenant with the loss of any advantage conferred on him or which would lead up to a rehearing of judicial decisions, he held that there were many points on which inquiry was called for. It could not be denied that the working of the Act had not been anticipated by any section of politicians, and the causes of this might be inquired into, as well as the reasons which led to the failure of the emigration clauses, the Bright clauses, and the reclamation clauses. But the strongest argument was the impossibility of leaving the land tenure of Ireland in its present condition of divided ownership. The Land Act contained within itself the seeds of certain destruction, and it was the duty of the Government at once to consider the problem which would very shortly present itself. Without recommending anything like a wholesale expropriation of landlords, he thought that, in the cases where the landlords had been ruined and could no longer hope to fill their position usefully, they should be assisted by the Land Commission to sell their estates in the manner suggested by Mr. W. H. Smith last session. He saw no reason why an Irish Land Bank should not be established for the purpose, and in this direction alone could he see a single ray of light in the darkness in which the Land Act had landed the country.

Mr. O'Shaughnessy, after expressing his approval of this suggestion, proceeded to argue in favour of the motion, which he insisted was the only means of averting the dangers to the settlement of Ireland involved in the proposed inquiry.

Sir H. Bruce complained of the administration of the Act from the landlords' point of point of view; and Mr. Dickson, who supported the motion, said that the solution of the question lay in the purchase clauses, and urged the Government to pay attention to the hint thrown out by Sir M. Hicks-Beach.

Mr. Brodrick reproached the Government with pursuing a policy of silence, and especially with declining to answer the challenges of Mr. Gibson and Sir M. Hicks-Beach. He cited also various cases in which he contended the Act had been administered by the Sub-Commissioners contrary to the intention of Parliament, and which required investigation. Unless the inquiry were held now it would be too late, and if the Government had no hidden purpose and were not ashamed of the Act they would not refuse.

Mr. Healy said he was not surprised at the attitude of the Conservative party, because it was undoubted that Mr. Gladstone had misled them by declaring that Ireland was not rack-rented as a rule, and that the landlords had nothing to fear. He himself criticised the Act from the opposite point of view and found fault with some of the appointments to the post of Sub-Commissioner, and repelled what he described as Mr. Gladstone's calumnies on the Land League.

The Solicitor-General for Ireland energetically condemned the proposed inquiry as unprecedented and certain to diminish the confidence of the Irish people in the Act. Among other arguments against the Committee, he pointed out that some of its members were actually impleaded in the Court itself. If it was intended to lay a case for compensation, that should have been stated in a straightforward manner; but he contended that the inquiry was not *bonâ fide* to obtain information, but to establish a foregone conclusion, to make out a case of injustice against the Act, and, if possible, to get rid of it. As to the compromise, he said Mr. Gladstone had never said he would agree to even the limited inquiry; and he wound up with a vigorous defence of the Land Act, which he said was already bearing fruit, and ought not to be interfered with by a hostile inquiry.

Mr. Plunket maintained that the precedents on which Mr. Gladstone had founded his resolution had no real bearing, and treated as absurd his suggestion that a mere inquiry into the operation of the Act would weaken the confidence of the Irish people in it and turn the Ulster men into Land Leaguers. The unexpected working of the Act had inflicted grievous hardship on many innocent persons, and that of itself would justify an inquiry. After the disclaimer of the Lords' Committee, to prolong the debate was a mere waste of time, and public opinion would not fail to condemn the resolution as unnecessary, aggressive, and vindictive.

On the motion of Mr. C. Russell, the debate was further adjourned.

The Boiler Explosions Bill was passed through Committee.

THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF HER MAJESTY.

Sir S. Northcote: Before the House adjourns I am sure it would be a great relief to the anxiety felt by hon. members if the Government were able to give us any information with regard to the atrocious outrage which has caused such a thrill of horror to pass through all our minds, and especially if they could inform us whether Her Majesty has escaped, not only unhurt, but that her health has not suffered, as far as they are aware, from the shock which she must have received. There must be a general feeling of thankfulness to hear that her Majesty is well, and the information the Government are able to give will be gladly received by the House. (Cheers.)

Sir W. Harcourt: Sir, I regret to state that at half-past five o'clock this afternoon, as Her Majesty was driving out of the station at Windsor in a close carriage, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, a shot was fired from a revolver by a man who has been arrested. His name is Robert Maclean. He appears to have been a clerk, and he states that he is a native of London. I do not think that I can give the House any further particulars than this. I am happy to be able to assure the House that the Queen has sustained no injury—(loud cheers)—and Sir Henry Ponsonby in his telegram to me, adds that "The Queen is not alarmed." (Renewed cheers.) I have also to add that no person was injured by the shot that was fired. (Hear, hear.) I need not say that the right hon. gentleman opposite has expressed the feeling of every member of this House and of every man in this country, in testifying the deepest sympathy with Her Majesty under this outrage. (Cheers.)

The House adjourned at five minutes past one.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

The polling at Northampton on Thurday resulted in the return of Mr. Bradlaugh by a majority of 108 votes.

A meeting of Liberal members of Parliament was held on Monday in Downing-street, at which nearly 300 were present, and Mr. Gladstone explained the reasons for proposing his resolution deprecating the inquiry ordered by the Lords into the operation of the Irish Land Act.

Mr. Robert Jardine, M.P., of Castlemilk, has intimated to his Dumfriesshire tenants that an abatement of ten per cent. will be made from the half-year's rents payable next week. This is the seventh time in succession that a similar abatement has been made on this estate.

A large meeting of the Conservative party was held in Cambridge Townhall on Tuesday evening, to hear addresses from Mr. Penrose Fitzgerald and Mr. Sydney Gedge, who had been recommended to the party as candidates for the representation of the borough at the next election. These gentlemen having addressed the meeting, which gave them an enthusiastic reception, Mr. Charles Balls, J.P., proposed:—

"That Messrs. Fitzgerald and Gedge be accepted as the Conservative candidates for the borough," which was seconded by Mr. F. Piggott, president of the Junior Conservative Club, supported by Dr. Waraker, president of the Standard of England Brotherhood, and carried with absolute unanimity.

At an influential meeting of the Borough of New Windsor Conservative Association, held on Monday evening, the following resolutions were unanimously carried:—

That this meeting desires to convey to Sir Stafford Northcote the expression of its cordial and grateful appreciation of the successful stand made by him in defence of constitutional principles, by opposing the present Government of the country in respect to the admission of an avowed atheist into Parliament, and also for his determination to resist the proposal of the Prime Minister for restricting freedom of debate in the House of Commons.

That this meeting views with alarm the policy of Her Majesty's Government both at home and abroad, and trusts that the day may not be far distant when the affairs of the nation will be entrusted to a Conservative Government.

That copies of the foregoing resolutions be forwarded to Lord Salisbury and Sir Stafford Northcote.

At a meeting of the representatives of all the Conservative clubs in the borough of Chelsea, held at the central offices of the Conservative Association, Sir Sibbald D. Scott, Bart., in the chair, it was unanimously resolved:—

That this meeting approves of the action taken, in the exercise of its undoubted constitutional rights, by the House of Lords, in appointing a committee to inquire into the present working of the Land Act; and, at the same time, emphatically deprecates the course being pursued with reference thereto by Mr. Gladstone, which is calculated to produce a breach between the two Houses of the Legislature—such being, in the opinion of this meeting, his obvious intention.

Mr. Charles Seely, jun., M.P., has written to the Chairman of the Nottingham Liberal Union, stating his objections to the *clôture* proposed by Mr. Gladstone. He objects to the power to close a debate being given to a bare majority. He thinks that three-fourths of the time which is foolishly wasted in the House of Commons is wasted in a way to which no system of *clôture* would apply. He points to the possibility of a Conservative Government coming into power, and says he should not be surprised if the first person to whom the *clôture* was applied were not Mr. Gladstone himself. He adds: "There has been some talk in the papers about making this a question of confidence in the Ministry. I cannot think for a moment any such step will be taken. If members of Parliament are not to form an opinion for themselves on a question of this sort, Parliamentary institutions become a farce."

It is understood that Mr. Forster has been asked to attend the meeting of the Committee of the House of Lords, and that the Committee have informed him that they do not consider it to be within the scope of the reference made to them by the House to inquire into the correctness of any decision at which the Commissioners or Sub-Commissioners, in the exercise of their judicial functions, may have arrived.

Speaking at a Conservative meeting at Hampstead, at which Colonel Tottenham, M.P., delivered a lecture on the state of Ireland, Lord G. Hamilton said, with respect to the Committee of the House of Lords appointed to inquire into the working of the Land Act, that Mr. Gladstone objected to it on the ground that it would interfere with the judicial proceedings of the Land Court. The Committee had now expressly declared that they considered the reference prevented them from inquiring into the judicial working of the Act, but they would be in this position in the House of Commons: The Prime Minister had made an utterly unfounded statement, which was fully contradicted by the action of the Committee itself, but the rules of the House would prevent any reference to that contradiction. Irish questions had always been used by Mr. Gladstone as a means of uniting his party; in 1868 and again at the last general election, he obtained the Irish vote, and reunited his party. Ireland was the gluepot of the Liberal party, but as glue required to be heated before it was ready for use, so it was necessary for the Liberal party for thoroughly utilising an Irish question to get up an agitation, which, however it might reunite the Radical party, was fraught with danger and disaster to the union between England and Ireland.

Responding to the toast of Her Majesty's Ministers at the annual dinner of the Associated Chambers of Commerce on Wednesday, the Marquis of Hartington referred in the first place to the proposals of the Government now before the House of Commons for facilitating the business of the House, and expressed his confident opinion that these proposals were not more than adequate to the necessity, and he was certain that anything short of them would prove lamentably inadequate. He appealed to the association for support in the experiment which the Government were about to introduce in the direction of a division of labour by committing to the consideration of a standing committee measures affecting the trade and commerce of the country. (Hear, hear.) He had observed that many subjects connected with India had come under their consideration. He could assure them that those who were connected with the Government of India in that country and in England were fully alive to the vast importance of the commercial relations between the two countries, and to the impetus which will be given to those relations, by the removal, whenever the finances of India admitted, of any of the burdens which still pressed upon this country. (Cheers.) Referring to the negotiations for a commercial treaty with France, the noble Marquis said:—I need not relate to you, who are so intimately acquainted with the subject, the long course of negotiations which have continued with respect to the French treaty—how they were commenced in 1872, were very nearly brought to a successful issue in 1877, and revived again in 1880 and 1881. Our Commissioners last year seriously undertook the consideration of the proposals of the French Government—the proposals for the substitution of specific for *ad valorem* duties. These proposals were not rejected by our Commissioners on principle. They were only objected to when it was found that under cover of specific duties the intention was considerably to raise the duties upon the chief British manufactures which constitute the bulk of our trade with that country. Negotiations thereupon were dropped for a time, but they were renewed in the course of last autumn. Our Commissioners did not stir from the position which they had taken up. (Hear, hear.) They found that an agreement was arrived at upon most of the minor questions, but that there were still some large and important questions which seemed incapable of solution. From that time our Commissioners did not stir an inch. They took their stand upon principle, and by degrees the French Government approached nearer and nearer to our position. One by one they gave up their objections, and they dropped their own proposals; but when the negotiations were again renewed in the winter, and when their final proposals and concessions were received, it was found that they were still unprepared to go as far as we thought necessary, or to accept those bases which we had laid down, and on which alone we thought it would be possible to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion; whereupon the negotiations were broken off. The specific point on which the negotiations were finally broken off was the inability to arrive at an understanding as to printed and fancy cotton goods and mixed woollens. Throughout these negotiations I think I may claim for the Government—and I think the claim will be supported by the papers which will shortly be published—that they have occupied the dignified position of a consistently Free-trade Government. Our Commissioners have taken their stand upon certain principles and have refused to depart from those principles. We were willing to accept a treaty which would be an improvement on the *status quo*, although that improvement might be a slight one; but at the same time we considered that it would be to inflict a fatal blow upon the principles of Free Trade if we were to set our hands to a treaty which contained the principles of retrogression. (Cheers.) I think that the result has proved that we were right, partly no doubt owing to the friendly feeling which I am perfectly willing to admit and to do justice to, of the French Government and of the French people towards us—partly, however, no doubt, on account of their conviction of the injuries which they would inflict upon themselves if they were to force our trade to revert to the onerous provisions of their general tariff. Jointly from these two reasons we have now obtained from the French Government the treatment of the most favoured nation, and this we have obtained without any compromise or pledge on our part. We are free to deal with our own tariffs just as we please, and to act as we think best in the regulation of our own commercial affairs. At the same time, I am happy to be able to say that arrangements are in progress—and, I believe, the Government have the hope that they will speedily bear fruit—for the development of our commercial relations with Spain and with other countries. (Cheers.) Those arrangements need not necessarily take the form of treaty engagements. They may, and probably will be, better left to a treaty on a footing of a voluntary character, so that other nations as well as our own will be free to deal with their own tariffs and to make what arrangements they please for the regulation of their commercial concerns. We shall retain ourselves that freedom, and we believe that in taking the course which we regard as consistent with the principles of Free Trade we are also taking the course which will be most consistent with the commercial interests and the prosperity of the country. (Loud cheers.)

Speaking at a political meeting at Maidstone, Mr. E. Stanhope, M.P., said the Radical Administration of the past two years did not afford a very hopeful prospect. In the first year they increased the taxation of the country, and the second was marked, first, by the passing of a Bill which enabled them to imprison persons in Ireland without trial, and, secondly, by a Bill which contained principles, from beginning to end, utterly opposed to anything which they had before proposed, and now they were applying to the conduct of public business two principles of vital importance, which he would venture to characterise in these two words, bribery and coercion—bribery in passing a Bill which was a tremendous bribe to the Irish people to support the Government, and to encourage law and order—a Bill which, however, had been received without any appreciation of the beneficent effects it was intended to confer. And what was the result? They now found that the Prime Minister was offering another bribe to the people of that country, by saying he was prepared to consider the question of Home Rule, which all the Governments of recent times had declared to be beyond the sphere of practical discussion. (Cheers and hisses.) The coercion was to be found, first, in the Birmingham caucus system, which took away the liberty of opinion of members, and in the *clôture* proposals of the Government—proposals which would give a bare majority of the members power to stop a debate. Now, the Conservatives desired to put a stop to obstruction in the House of Commons; they desired to facilitate the progress of public business: but they were not prepared to submit to being gagged by a majority of one. (Cheers.) One thing was certain—if the power was given it would be used, and the result would be, the minority being unable to exercise its influence and express its opinions in a Constitutional manner, would have no other resource than to go out into the country and agitate in order that its views might gain acceptance. But not only had they tried coercion in the House of Commons; they were prepared to coerce the House of Lords for having, as they had a perfect right, decided on an inquiry into the working of the Irish Land Act. The Premier said the time had not arrived for inquiry; but seeing the state of the business in the Land Courts, something must be done, or else the work of the Courts would not be completed for twenty years, when all protest would be unavailing. Resolutions were subsequently passed expressing confidence in the Conservative leaders, as well as in the borough members.

Earl Grey has addressed the following letter to the *Times*:—

"Sir,—I am not prepared to deny the force of some of the objections which have been urged against the appointment by the House of Lords of a Committee to inquire into the working of the Irish Land Act of 1881; but, on the other hand, there are also strong reasons in favour of the inquiry which do not appear to have received the attention they deserve, and it is by no means clear to me that, on the whole, the last are not the most weighty. Without attempting to strike a balance between the arguments brought forward on the one side and on the other, I am anxious to point out that the following are questions which require to be considered and to be distinctly answered:—

"1. Is it or is it not true that in the very great majority of cases the Assistant Commissioners have reduced by not less than from 20 to 30 per cent. the rents of farms brought under their consideration, even when these rents have been paid regularly and without difficulty for periods of forty or fifty years?

"2. Was it or was it not the intention of Her Majesty's Ministers in proposing the Bill, or of Parliament in passing it, that the words 'a fair rent' should be understood in a sense which will warrant such reductions?

"3. If neither Her Majesty's Ministers nor Parliament intended that a construction should be put upon the Act by which rents should be reduced in the manner the Assistant Commissioners have reduced them, is it not the bounden duty of Parliament to pass with as little delay as possible a declaratory Act, explaining how the words 'a fair rent' are to be understood?

"If these questions can be answered in the negative this ought to be authoritatively shown for the satisfaction of those owners of land in Ireland who now believe themselves to be treated with injustice by the decisions of the Commissioners. If, on the other hand, the questions must be answered in the affirmative, there can be no doubt that no time ought to be lost in arresting the injustice which is being done. I am not aware of any better means than the institution a Parliamentary inquiry that could be adopted for arriving at a right conclusion on this difficult matter. "I am, Sir, yours, "Grey.

"*Howick, March* 1."

"A Candid Friend" writes in the *World*:—

"The Anglo-Indians, both in Europe and in Asia, are asking, Who is Mr. C. P. Ilbert? The answer is, that as a boy he was one of the first great successes which Marlborough School ever turned out; that he was a scholar of Balliol, who, by the time he had taken his degree, had swept the academic board clear of every possible classical distinction; that he has been a struggling barrister at the Chancery Bar, an *employé* of Sir Henry Thring, and more recently a Parliamentary draughtsman on his own account. Whether it is fair to India, or to English lawyers, that he should be suddenly singled out for his present appointment I will not undertake to say. He may very likely do well, because he is an able man, well versed in the science of law; but in promotions of this sort established reputation and proved capacity ought to be borne in mind. Mr. Jowett will be highly pleased at the success of a favourite pupil, and will be more convinced than ever that he is a power in the State. For the sake of India, it is to be regretted that Mr. Bryce did not see his way to accept the office which was placed at his disposal. Mr Ilbert is probably the most obscure

man who has ever received so big a piece of promotion. He is also one of the few brilliant Oxford scholars of his day who has ever come to the front. Mr. Papillon, who was elected a scholar of Balliol in the same year as Mr. Ilbert, is, I believe, now a Fellow and Tutor of New College. Of the two Balliol scholars who were elected the next year, Sir Matthew White Ridley has never quite fulfilled the reputation with which he came up from Harrow, and the fame of Mr. F. H. Jeune scarcely extends beyond professional circles. The most successful of the Balliol scholars of three or four academic generations since is perhaps Mr. R. T. Reid, the present member for Hereford. But Mr. Reid was in the University Eleven, and played rackets against Cambridge as well. He has been known to say that his athletic successes have secured him more briefs and credit with solicitors than the fact that he won the Hertford and Ireland Scholarships."

THE ARCHBISHOPS' COURTS.

At the recent sitting of the Convocation of York Canon Trevor moved :—

That, having regard to the principles and provisions of the Acts for the Restraint of Appeals (24 and 25 Henry VIII.), it is desirable that when judgment is to be given in the Archbishop's Court on any grave question of the law divine or of spiritual learning, the judge should state the case to the spiritual Prelates of the Upper House of Convocation, whose determinatian should be binding on the judgment of the Court and form part of the record.

In proposing the above the Canon made the following speech :—

The House would be glad to hear he was not about to repeat the demand on its time and patience which was so liberally conceded to him yesterday. He had then to deal with a proposal of much novelty, never before discussed in Convocation or, that he knew of, elsewhere. Though encouraged by many persons of good authority to bring it forward for discussion, he was quite unprepared for the large amount of favour it obtained. He did not even know that he should have a seconder. All he had ventured to do was to ask the Dean of Carlisle, as the most Radical Dignitary in the House—(a laugh)—to hear what he had to say and second him if he thought fit. It was quite possible when he rose that his own might be the only speech on the subject, and he was bound to make out his case as completely as he could. To day he was on ground well travelled for the last thirty years. It would be unnecessary to go into history or even argument. He should only have to show the point in which his proposal differed from that of the two Committees, and they would see at once which was the most advisable. He went entirely with the Committee in desiring the restoration of the Archbishop's Court as before the Public Worship Regulation Act. On that point there was not a dissentient voice at the Convocation, and, in fact, nothing could be done without it. There was a general belief that so much at least was pretty certain to be recommended by the Royal Commission.

The President asked what the objection was to the Court as now constituted?

Canon Trevor said he had not intended to say more than that his proposition assured the Court would be restored to its spiritual authority. Being pressed by his Grace to explain, he said that Lord Penzance had no spiritual authority because his Grace had given him none. He was appointed by the Archbishops jointly to the new Judgeship created by the Public Worship Regulation Act. That appointment was in the terms of the Act, and said nothing of any spiritual or ecclesiastical jurisdiction. It might just as well have been made by the two Lord Mayors if the Act had authorised them. The Archbishop's spiritual jurisdiction was at that time wholly vested in Mr. Vernon, who retained it till his resignation. Then Lord Penzance succeeded to Mr. Vernon's office in virtue of the Act, without any commission whatever from the Archbishop. All that the Act could give him was the legal jurisdiction. Spiritual authority could only come from a spiritual person. and therefore he could never believe that Lord Penzance had any more authority over him in spiritual matters than the Lord Mayor of York. He could send him to prison, no doubt; and as he had no wish to go to prison, he should try to avoid him. The difference was that to the Archbishop's injunctions he owed prompt and reverent obedience. Lord Penzance's he should take to a solicitor and do his best to defeat. (Hear.) But this was not the question, and he must beg his Grace to forgive him for being led away by his inquiry. His motion rested on the assumption that the Archbishop's Court would be restored to its normal condition as the Church Court of Final Appeal. It was quite a modern error to give that title to the Judicial Committee. The delegates to whose jurisdiction they succeeded were never so regarded. It was not a Church Court at all, but the Court of the Sovereign to review the sentence of the Church for lack of justice. It was not established by Henry VIII., but was found in the *Constitutions of Clarendon* and back to the original Charter of Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction. The *justitia regis* could always be resorted to from the sentence of the Church. This was quite another thing from the determination of questions of the law divine and of spiritual learning, which the 24 Henry VIII. ascribed to the Spiritualty. An appeal to the Upper House of Convocation was expressly provided for in that Act in cases which touched the King; and as late as the reign of Queen Anne, Convocation was the Supreme Court of Heresy. The modern notion that its authority was superseded by the appeal to the King for lack of justice was not heard of till the Gorham Case, and was then laid down against all the textbooks on a suggestion that Convocation was gone and ought not to be restored. It was true, however, one of the blunders of the Church Discipline Act was to take away all appeals except to the Judicial Committee; and he was afraid it was now too late to go back. The great Judges on the Judicial Committee would persist in drawing all manner of questions into their net. They would not hear of the distinction between doctrine and justice. The attempt to introduce a spiritual element had failed in its former shape, and was no better in the present shape of assessors. He agreed with his Grace that it would come to a purely lay court, and the sooner they turn their eyes in another direction for the voice of the Spiritualty the better for any chance of obtaining it. He did not believe the Queen's Judges wished to silence the Spiritualty; they must always be glad of their assistance; but they would never, even in appearance, consent to subject the Royal Supremacy to any other authority whatever. (Hear.) If the Spiritualty were to speak it must be before the cause comes to the Privy Council. This was the point where he ventured to differ from the Report of the Committee. He believed they had never discussed it; they followed the bad precedent of the Church Discipline Act, and tried to improve it by a reference to the Episcopate of both Provinces. He was strongly convinced that there was no thoroughfare in that direction. The proper place for the voice of the Spiritualty was in the Court of the Church, not in kings' palaces. The Archbishop's was the Church's final Court of Appeal; in the words of the 24 Hen. VIII., "Here to be definitely and finally ordered, decreed, and adjudged according to justice, without any other appellation or provocation to any other person, court, or courts." Surely this was the very place for the voice of the Spiritualty. The Archbishop's Court was in effect the *forum* of the Convocation, over which he presides. The qualifications of the Judge, the process, the very fees of the Court are prescribed by canon. There are twenty canons or more in the existing code relating to the Courts, the Judges, Advocates, Proctors, and Registrars. If it were not for the Acts of Parliament Convocation might make the canon he desired of its own authority. He wished the Judge to refer any grave questions that might arise—it would not be necessary in every cause—to the Upper House of Convocation, and be bound to accept their determination. The Prelates would deal with the reference as they thought fit. They might appoint a committee to hear the arguments and report as the Judicial Committee does. They might consult theologians in the Lower House or the Universities. They would be slow to close an open question, or to vote heresy by a majority as the lawyers now do. Their determination would settle nothing but the spiritual question; the application of it to the property and rights of the suitors would be for the judge learned in the law. That would be final unless lack of justice was complained of. No one is obliged to complain: if they did, the Judicial Committee would have the determination of the Bishops before them; and would be very shy of quarrelling with it. Why should not they accept it as the Queen's Bench accepts the metropolitan certificate? The temporal accidents, which is all that properly concerns them, would be in their own jurisdiction. This would afford ample room to vary or reverse the sentence without putting a new construction on the articles of the faith. At all events, the Church would have spoken; the State might refuse to hear, but it could not put words into her mouth against the faith committed to her trust. He did not believe that any Judge in the land dreamed of doing so; but it was not their business; there was another authority which, however inferior in legal attainments, was entrusted with the law Divine by a power more than human. (Hear.) Here, then, was his case: a lay court there is and must be in the last resort. The Crown would never surrender it—it was idle to expect it. But of this he was as certain as that he stood there that if some means were not found of giving full and free expression to the voice of the Spiritualty, the lay Court would absolutely destroy the Establishment. It was not now a question whether the laity would continue the Establishment, but whether the clergy would consent to serve on the terms imposed by the State. (Hear, hear.) He saw no attack on the outside. They were getting stronger every day. What the Church had to fear was a most formidable dissension in the garrison. (Hear, hear.) Were they aware that there was a league amongst the clergy for the disestablishment of the Church of England? The laity thought the clergy so greatly interested in it that they could be reckoned upon to maintain the Establishment, but the real question was whether they would be able to get clergymen to do the duty. Every day the feeling of revolt against the disturbance and tyranny of the State was increasing among the clergy, and unless some means could be found, while maintaining the supremacy of the Crown—which would assuredly be kept up—of expressing the judgment of the Prelates of the Church, they would never be able to command the allegiance and obedience of the clergy. The object of his motion was to make infinitely more potent in the mind and heart of every clergyman the power of the Episcopacy. From his own experience he knew that there was a growing desire among the clergy—and it would be the greatest possible discouragement to them if the Bishops thought otherwise—to rush into the arms of the Bishops. (Hear, hear.) They wanted nothing but the faithful observance on both sides of the Relations between Church and State, on which the Establishment was founded. (Cheers.)

CONVOCATION AND THE RITUALISTS.

The Bishop of Peterborough has addressed the following letter to the *Spectator* on the article we reprinted last week :—

"Sir—Your comments upon the resolution carried by me in Convocation, on the subject of Mr. Green's imprisonment, are one instance more of the perils of public speaking when followed by abridged reporting. Had the full report of my speech been before you, the inferences you draw from it would have been impossible. These inferences are—(1) 'That I am quite content Mr. Green should be deprived;' (2) that 'I am quite resolved that not the slightest toleration shall be shown to Ritualists.' My speech was the exact reverse of both of these conclusions.

"As regards Mr. Green's deprivation, I said that it was, 'in all conscience, a severe penalty enough,' and that 'I heartily wished that a milder one could be substituted for it.' I also said that I 'was one of those who, regarding the Ornaments Rubric as ambiguous, held that Mr. Green, as the accused party, should have been given the benefit of the doubt as to the meaning of the rubric for the breaking of which he was prosecuted.'

"As regards toleration of Ritualists, so far from saying that none should be extended to them, I expressly spoke of the possible 'repeal or amendment' of the laws which now restrain them. The 'position,' therefore, which 'I take up' respecting Ritualists—although 'a distinct' one, as I think—is a very different one from that which you assign me. It is, in fact, precisely that which I 'take up' respecting every clergyman in the Church of England, whether he be High, Low, or Broad. It is briefly this :—1. Every clergyman is bound—so long as he retains his position in the Church of England—to conform to its laws, or (what is practically the same thing) to the interpretation of those laws by a lawfully constituted Court of Final Appeal. 2. If he will not obey those laws, or (what is practically the same thing) the interpretation of those laws by the Final Court of Appeal, he must abide the legal consequences of his disobedience. What these consequences should be is another question; but be they what they may, he must either leave the Church or endure them, *so long as the law or the court remains unrepealed or unamended*. To say that he may free himself from these consequences by setting up the plea of conscience, is anarchy pure and simple.

"We should rapidly become the most conscientious country in the world, if every citizen amongst us could rid himself of all penalty for law-breaking simply by saying, 'I conscientiously object to the law.' I contend, therefore—as I contended in my speech in Convocation—that the plea of conscience is purely irrelevant when urged against the enforcement of law.

"But I did not say, and I do not think, that this plea may not be a very powerful one to induce a reconsideration of the law against which it is urged. On the contrary, I said, and I strongly hold, that it is a most weighty reason for carefully reconsidering the law, and for repealing or amending it, if it be found unwise, unjust, or ambiguous.

"Accordingly, I have repeatedly urged the reconsideration both of the Ornaments Rubric and of the Courts Ecclesiastical. As regards the former, with the view of making it at once broader and more definite—broader, by allowing distinctly some at least of those ornaments for which I have no affection, but which are so dear to the hearts of many excellent clergymen; more definite, by distinctly naming what ornaments it does mean to require or permit.

"As regards the Ecclesiastical Courts, you may remember that it was I who carried in Convocation the motion for an inquiry into them by a Royal Commission, avowedly with the view of 'removing, if possible, the objections conscientiously entertained respecting them by many members of our Church.'

"You will see, then, I hope, from the above statement of facts, that I am not 'against,' but in favour of a reasonable amount of toleration for Ritualists; but that I am in favour of this being granted them legally, instead of illegally. Toleration of Ritualists by means of amended rubrics and reformed courts is one thing; and toleration of Ritualists while breaking rubrics and defying courts is another and quite a different thing.

"I am distinctly, within due and reasonable limits, in favour of the former course. I am not in favour, though I fear I have occasionally been guilty, of the latter.

"In short, to speak quite correctly and logically, I am in favour of *comprehension*, as distinguished from *toleration*; or, in other words, I believe in government by *law*, as distinguished from government by *connivance*, which latter is not, properly speaking, government at all. This, I submit to you, is something very different from 'wishing the law not to be elastic, nor the Church comprehensive;' it is really wishing for both the one and the other.

"I am, Sir, &c.,
"W. C. Peterborough.

"*Athenæum Club, Pall-mall, S. W.*"

On this the *Spectator* remarks :—

"We do not believe that any substantial good would be effected by the particular kind of comprehension which is all to which the Bishop of Peterborough yet stands committed. He speaks in his letter of making the Ornaments Rubric 'broader, by allowing distinctly some at least of those ornaments . . . . which are so dear to the hearts of many excellent clergymen.' We see no probability, however, that an amount of 'ceremonial' which the Bishops would be prepared to allow distinctly in a new Ornaments Rubric would satisfy the Ritualists; while, even if it did satisfy them, it would do nothing to prevent congregations unaccustomed to Ritualism from having it forced upon them by inconsiderate clergymen. We have no desire to protect Ritualists at the expense of non-Ritualists. The object we have at heart is to see both given what they wish for, and protected against what they dislike, so far as this double end is attainable by legislation. How it is to be done is another question, and one the difficulty of which we fully acknowledge. Earlier in the controversy we were in favour of a provision that no change should be introduced into the services of any church without the consent of, say, three-fourths of the congregation, but we confess to having found the difficulty of defining a 'congregation' greater than we at first expected it to be. The term cannot be taken as co-extensive with the parishioners, since many—perhaps a majority—of the parishioners never come to church; indeed, are not, except in a civil sense, members of the Church of England. There is no very obvious way of identifying the regular attendants at the services generally; and, though this difficulty might be got over in the case of communicants, to give communicants as such the right of determining the character of the services would tend to make communion the mere civil test which it was before the repeal of the Test and Corporation Acts. The only remedy which is free from all these objections is to give the minority of a congregation which is dissatisfied with any changes introduced by the incumbent the right of providing at their own cost, additional services in the church, or, if they preferred it, an additional church in the parish. No doubt this would only meet the case of minorities who could afford, at the least, to pay an additional curate. But where every proposal is open to some objection, it is useless to dwell upon the objections to which the most promising of the number is undoubtedly open. Much, indeed, might be said to show that the particular objections just instanced are less serious than they may appear at first sight. It would be premature, however, thus to go into the details of a project which as yet is scarcely more than a mere suggestion of our own. But, as Canon Trevor is kind enough to say that some of the clergy would be glad to have our advice, we have thought it well to indicate the direction in which, as we are more and more convinced, the amelioration of the present distress can be most hopefully looked for."

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON CATHEDRALS.

The Report of the Royal Commission for inquiring into the condition of Cathedral Churches in England and Wales has just been issued. The report, which is dated February 8, 1882, is signed by the following Commissioners :—The Archbishop of Canterbury, Viscount Cranbrook, the Bishop of Carlisle, Lord Blachford, Mr. Beresford-Hope, Sir Walter James, Mr. Charles Dalrymple; the secretary being Mr. A. B. Ellicott. It is as follows :—

"We commenced our labours by inviting information on matters bearing upon the organisation and practical working of the Cathedrals. We addressed ourselves to the Bishops, deans, and residentiary canons, and also to the archdeacons, to the prebendaries of the Cathedrals of the Old Foundation and the honorary canons of the New, to the minor canons, the organists, and lay clerks. The result has been that we have received not only much important information, but also many suggestions which we have endeavoured to turn to good account. The more important communications which have been made to us will be appended to a future report.

"We have held sixty-two meetings, and, in accordance with the terms of your Majesty's Commission, we have had under consideration the following cathedrals* :—Canterbury, St. Paul's, Wells, Durham, Chichester, Ely, Winchester, Lichfield, Rochester, Exeter, Bristol, Manchester, Carlisle, Lincoln, Chester, Norwich, Christchurch (Oxford), Salisbury, Peterborough, Hereford, Ripon, Gloucester, Worcester, York, Llandaff, St. David's, St. Asaph, Bangor, Truro.† We have endeavoured in the case of each Cathedral to bear carefully in mind its peculiar situation and circumstances, and in this have derived great assistance from the association with ourselves as Commissioners of members of the capitular bodies. While following certain general principles which in our judgment ought to characterise all Catheral foundations, we have striven to avoid everything which might savour of a forced and unnatural uniformity.

"We have found practically that the only satisfactory way of expressing our recommendations has been to embody the same in the form of suggested statutes, and our method has been, after carefully discussing the case of any particular Cathedral, to request the dean and representative canon to prepare draft statutes in accordance with the resolutions to which we may have come. The suggested statutes of all the above Cathedrals are in course of preparation, and the question arises how legal authority can be most conveniently imparted to new or amended statutes.

"We recommend that your Majesty be empowered by legislation to appoint a Committee of Privy Council for Cathedral purposes, such Committee to have the duty of approving Cathedral statutes, and of sanctioning amendments when required, and to consist of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Bishop of London, and the following persons, being members of the Church of England—the Lord President, the Lord Chancellor, and two other members of the Privy Council.

"In the case of new statutes, suggested by your Majesty's Commissioners, we recommend that the Committee of Privy Council for Cathedral purposes be authorised to examine and approve, or, if they see fit, amend them, and that such statutes, having obtained your Majesty's sanction, have the force of law.

"We recommend, further, that the dean and chapter of any Cathedral should have the power of submitting at any time a new or amended statute to the visitor for his approval, and of submitting a statute so approved to your Majesty in Council; the statute when sanctioned by your Majesty, on the advice of the Cathedral Committee, to become a statute of the Cathedral.

"We humbly recommend that for the establishment of the proposed Committee of Privy Council for Cathedral purposes, with the powers indicated, application should be made to Parliament as soon as conveniently may be.

"In accordance with your Majesty's Commission, a separate report with respect to each Cathedral church will be in due time presented to your Majesty. Such report will in each case consist mainly of the body of statutes which we shall be prepared to recommend for the future government of the Cathedral. In anticipation of these separate reports, we humbly lay before your Majesty in this our first report a statement of the general principles which we have adopted for our guidance.

"One of the chief points which have engaged our attention has been the conduct of the Cathedral services. We have endeavoured to make regulations which, while guarding against any rash or ill-considered changes in that which has been customary, shall nevertheless permit due flexibility in the ordering of such services.

"We have also endeavoured to strengthen the Cathedrals, where necessary, in the important matter of preaching, by suggesting arrangements which shall ensure as far as possible that the Cathedral pulpit shall be occupied by the most able preachers that can be found, whether within the Cathedral body, within the bounds of the diocese, or outside both these limits.

"The relation in which the Bishop of the diocese stands to the Cathedral has occupied our attention, and we have endeavoured to lay down rules which shall reserve to the Bishop suitable rights and privileges, and at the same time prevent the possibility of difficult and painful questions being raised from time to time.

"But besides the question of the services which take place in the Cathedral, and matters connected with them, we have taken a wider view of the Cathedral in its relation to the whole diocese, and indeed to the Church at large.

"We have considered that in many cases the members of capitular bodies might be able to make the influence of the Cathedral felt in a beneficial manner throughout the diocese, by giving instruction in theological or ecclesiastical subjects, either in the Cathedral city or in suitable centres throughout the diocese; they might be able to make the same influence felt also by offering their services as preachers, where

* These are arranged in the order in which they were called before us.

† In the case of Truro Cathedral the Bishop represented the Cathedral, there being no dean.

required; we have endeavoured to embody this view in the statutes of those Cathedrals to which it has appeared to us to be applicable.

"For the purpose of giving effect to this conception of a canon's duties, we have recommended, with certain important exceptions, in those cases in which sufficient means and a house of residence can be provided, that canons should reside within the Cathedral precincts for eight months in the year, and should not hold preferment inconsistent with the performance of diocesan duties.

"It has appeared to us important to develop the constitution of the Cathedrals of the New Foundation upon the lines of those of the Old, by giving to the honorary canons a status analogous to that of prebendaries. Accordingly, we have recommended that the honorary canons should have their place in a greater chapter, and should have certain rights and privileges as members of the same.

"We have futher recommended, in the case of all Cathedrals, that there shall be a diocesan chapter, which may be summoned by the Bishop of the diocese when he thinks fit. We have recommended that to this chapter it should be lawful for the Bishop to summon, in addition to the members of the ordinary greater chapter, the rural deans of the diocese and the proctors of the clergy in Convocation.

"We have suggested some important changes with regard to the priest-vicars or minor canons, It has seemed to us desirable that this office should, as a general rule, be held by the younger clergy, and should not be regarded as employment for life. We have therefore recommended that the appointment should be made for a limited period, and that satisfactory provision should be made for those who have discharged their office during that period with credit.

"We have also given our attention to the condition of the other ministers and officers, and have made such recommendations as will in our judgment tend to the good order of the Cathedrals.

"It will be necessary in the case of all changes proposed by us, that vested interests should be respected.

"We think it unnecessary, to refer to a variety of smaller matters which have come under our notice, and our conclusions concerning which will appear when the separate reports of the several Cathedrals are presented to your Majesty.

"Finally, we humbly represent to your Majesty that in the event of a Bill being presented to Parliament for the purpose of establishing the Cathedral Committee of the Privy Council, as already recommended in this report, it is desirable that such Bill should contain provisions for amending the existing laws affecting Cathedrals with respect to certain matters which could not be conveniently introduced into Cathedral statutes.

"We would refer as a leading example to the Act 3 and 4 Vict., cap. 113, section 44, which provides as follows:—

"'And be it enacted that, upon the vacancy of any benefice in the patronage of the chapter of any Cathedral or collegiate church, the chapter shall present or nominate thereto either a member of such chapter or one of the archdeacons of the diocese, or a non-residentiary prebendary or honorary canon, as the case may be, or any spiritual person who shall have served for five years at the least in the office of minor canon or lecturer of the same church, or of master of the grammar or other school (if any) attached to or connected with such church, or as incumbent or curate in the same diocese, or as public tutor in either of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, or who, so far as relates to the Cathedral church of Durham, shall have served for the like time in the office of professor, reader, lecturer, or tutor in the said University of Durham, or shall have been educated thereat, and shall be a licentiate or graduate in theology therein, or who shall have served as incumbent or curate within the same diocese for the period aforesaid; and that every such office of minor canon, lecturer, schoolmaster, professor, reader, lecturer, or tutor shall, immediately upon the expiration of one year from the time of his institution to such benefice, if not previously resigned, become and be vacant; and if neither a member of the chapter nor an archdeacon of the diocese, nor a minor canon nor lecturer, nor such schoolmaster, incumbent or curate, professor, reader, lecturer, tutor, licentiate, or graduate, as the case may be, shall be presented or nominated to such benefice within six calendar months from the time of the vacancy thereof, the Bishop of the diocese in which the same is situate may, within the next six calendar months, collate or license thereto a spiritual person who shall have actually served within such diocese as incumbent or curate for five years at the least; and if no such collation or licence shall be granted within such time, the right of presentation or nomination to such benefice for that turn shall lapse to the Archbishop of the Province.'

"Part of this provision has led to great difficulty with regard both to interpretation and to practice; and we recommend that, subject to such preferences as those which the Act lays down, deans and chapters should be permitted to present to parishes in their patronage 'clergymen who have been engaged in the active service of the Church for the period of five years at home or abroad.'

"We think it unnecessary to introduce into this report any other recommendations of the like kind; but we shall be prepared at the proper time to lay such recommendations before your Majesty, in order that they may be embodied in a Bill and submitted to the judgment of Parliament."

Epps's Cocoa.—Grateful and Comforting.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette.*—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in Packets labelled—"James Epps & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Epps's Chocolate Essence for afternoon use.

ST. MATTHIAS' DAY AT LINCOLN.

(From the *Guardian.*)

Friday last, the Festival of St. Matthias, being the anniversary of Bishop Wordsworth's consecration to the See of Lincoln, was kept by the Bishop, according to his annual custom, in his Cathedral, his Lordship being the celebrant at the administration of Holy Communion which followed Matins. This day being also the anniversary of the foundation of the *Scholæ Cancellarii*, there was a large attendance of past and present theological students, the number of communicants being between ninety and one hundred. The same day was also appropriately selected for the baptism of the infant children of the two chief officers of the Theological College—Chancellor Leeke and Vice-Chancellor Crowfoot. Additional interest was imparted to the service by the close relationship of the Bishop by whom the Sacrament was administered, to one of the infants baptised; Mrs. Leeke being his Lordship's youngest daughter, and the child bearing the name of the Bishop's distinguished uncle, William Wordsworth.

At the conclusion of the Communion Service, the Bishop, attended by his chaplains, Chancellor Leeke, Sub-Dean Clements, and Prebendary Wordsworth, who carried the pastoral staff, Precentor Venables, Canons Crowfoot and Worlledge, proceeded down the nave to the grand old Norman font of the time of Remigius, the first Bishop of Lincoln and founder of the Cathedral. The font, which is hewn out of a huge block of black basalt, and bears a strong family resemblance to that of Winchester Cathedral, now stands in its original position, under the second arch of the nave, on the south side, to which it was restored in 1874. The huge square basin was tastefully decorated with snowdrops and other early spring flowers, embedded in moss and wreaths of ivy. The Bishop, who wore his white festival cope, took his place on the western side of the font, Sub-Dean Clements, bearing the ebony and ivory pastoral staff, standing behind him. A large company of the relatives and friends of both of the families chiefly concerned in the service was gathered round the font, and a considerable congregation assembled in the nave and aisles to witness the interesting ceremony, and to add their prayers that the newly-baptised infants might prove worthy of their spiritual lineage, and might "lead the rest of their lives according to that beginning."

In the afternoon the Bishop of Lincoln presided at the annual meeting of the Missionary Guild of the *Scholæ Cancellarii*, in the library of the Bishop's Hostel. Of the establishment of this guild, and of the inaugural meeting we gave an account this time last year. Its object is to bind together past and present members of the Lincoln Theological College by the tie of regular stated intercession and almsgiving for missions both at home and abroad, and to unite the "Scholæ" with every branch of the Anglican Communion throughout the world by links of human interest and affection, and thus to render the sense of corporate unity more real and influential. During the past year services of intercession for missions have been held, and special celebrations of Holy Communion have taken place in the College chapel. Addresses have also been given by Dr. Tufnell, late Bishop of Brisbane; the Revs. W. T. Windley, Society for the Propagation of the Gospel missionary in Burma; A. E. Moule, Church Missionary Society missionary at Fouchow, China; R. M. Heanley, secretary of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, and others. Members of the guild have already gone out to various portions of the missionary field, who have thus revived links with foreign lands, such as, according to the earliest traditions, Lincoln had seven hundred years ago, when two Icelandic Bishops in succession had studied theology in the Chancellor's schools attached to the Cathedral. One is at work as a missionary under Bishop Steere in Central Africa; another under Bishop Hose at Singapore; a third is an incumbent in Wisconsin, U.S.A.; while of present students one is intending shortly to proceed to Tasmania; and another, who has received preparatory training at Warminster, is about to dedicate himself to missionary work. From the funds at the disposal of the guild two students have been aided by a Bursary at St. Paul's Mission-house, Burgh-le-Marsh, and liberal grants have been made to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and the Central African Mission.

The anniversary meeting last Friday was attended by the Ven. W. E. Matthew, Archdeacon of Colombo, and the Rev. A. G. S. Gibson (grandson of the late Bishop Sumner, of Winchester), who is about to go out to the diocese of St. John's, Kaffraria, as a fellow-labourer with Bishop Callaway. They both delivered addresses on the character, difficulties, and encouragements of the missionary work respectively in India and South Africa. Archdeacon Matthew dwelt on the sad crippling of missionary operations in India from the deficiency of well-qualified labourers to enter upon the various portions of the field now opening to the Church. He specially instanced Ahmednuggur, in the diocese of Bombay, where, for want of men and of funds to support them, too many of the converts of the recent awakening had been lost sight of, and left untended and untaught, while earnest applications for Christian teachers had to be refused, because there were none to send. Of the six members of the Cambridge Mission at Delhi, three had broken down from illness, and none were found to take their places. The whole number of clergy of the Church of England working in the vast peninsula of India was only about equal to those of the single diocese of Oxford. If Christian Missions had failed to produce the results anticipated, let him ask at whose door did the failure lie? Surely with the Church at home, which refused to spare its sons for the extension of the Redeemer's kingdom in our vast colonial dependency. The weakness of missionary work was that it was too much an amateur work, and not distinctly the work of the Church. It was taken up as something distinct from ordinary Church work by those who had a taste for it, and it was not backed up as it should be by the Church at home. We had yet to learn that the missionary work of the Church abroad and at home was one. We must not attempt to separate the two. And if they had been too much separated, we must endeavour to bridge over the gulf, as he was thankful to see they were doing by this missionary guild. In reply to some questions from the Bishop, Archdeacon Matthew said that considerable difficulties had been created in Ceylon, in maintaining the relations between a disestablished Church and an established Church, such as that of India still was. The Bishop of Colombo and the majority of his clergy regarded themselves as an integral portion of the Church of India, subject to its Metropolitan and bound by its canons; while an influential minority maintained that they were simply ministers of the Church of England *in* India, and refused to recognise the Church of India at all.

The Rev. A. G. S. Gibson then gave an interesting account of the work of the Church in South Africa, with particular references to Bishop Callaway's diocese of St. John's, Kaffraria, in which only sixteen clergy were labouring in a country larger than Scotland. He described the strong central station at Umtata, with its iron shed doing duty as a Cathedral—which, as the Bishop afterwards reminded the meeting, had been chiefly provided by the exertions of a lady, the wife of one of the Canons of the Cathedral of Lincoln—its college, embracing a training school for clergy, a higher school for the laity, and a training school for masters, and its hospital with wards for male and female patients—all due to the organising power, calm wisdom, and Christian energy of Bishop Callaway himself. A more promising field was hardly anywhere to be found, but there was now a call for the expenditure of much money and personal labour in rebuilding what had been destroyed in the late disastrous wars, and developing what had been already formed.

After some earnest words from Chancellor Leeke, referring to "the difference that day, which had witnessed the Bishop of Lincoln's consecration, had made, and might make, to the Church of Christ," and wishing his Lordship "many happy returns of the day in this world, and in the world to come," the Bishop of Lincoln brought the meeting to a close by the expression of "the hope that the difficulties mentioned by the Archdeacon of Colombo, and other kindred difficulties which were rising every day in the different parts of the Mission-field, might be solved by the establishment of what he ventured to regard as the great need of the Church of England—a Board of Missions. Such embarrassments would be best grappled with by the Church, not by societies. The Church of Christ was the great missionary society. She must not descend from her throne, and delegate her functions to self-constituted bodies, however excellent, but, under the promised guidance of the Holy Spirit, herself undertake the solution of these ever-recurring difficulties. If the importance of missionary work were not realised as it ought to be, was it not because the duty was devolved upon societies instead of being done by the Church herself? There was an absolute necessity that the Church of England should rise up to the full height of the occasion, and, feeling the gravity of the position as a Church, show her sympathy for her sons who have gone forth into the wide field of the world to win it for Christ, even as they, he was sure, if such a call were to come to them, would go forth as children of the Church, wherever she might send them."

The meeting concluded with the Benediction.

THE CHURCHWARDENS' BILL.

The following is the text of the Churchwardens' Bill, which has been introduced by Mr. Monk (L), M.P. for Gloucester, to enable churchwardens to make their "declaration" on entering on their office before the incumbent of their parish, or the Rural Dean, instead of going before the Bishop or Archdeacon. The only other name on the back of the Bill is that of Sir Gabriel Goldney (C), M.P. for Chippenham:—

A Bill to Facilitate the Admission of Churchwardens and Sidesmen to Office.

"Whereas it is expedient to provide facilities for the admission of churchwardens and sidesmen to their office:

"Be it enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

Declaration by Churchwarden or Sidesman.

"1. Any person duly elected churchwarden or sidesman at a vestry meeting, or duly nominated or appointed churchwarden or sidesman, may, if he think fit, in the presence of the Incumbent of the parish, or of the Rural Dean of the rural deanery within which such parish is situate, sign the following declaration:—

"'I, *A. B.*, do sincerely declare that I will faithfully and diligently perform the duties of the office of churchwarden (or sidesman) for the parish of , to the best of my ability, according to law.'

"And such Incumbent, or Rural Dean, as the case may be, shall at the request of any such churchwarden or sidesman attest his signature to the said declaration, and every declaration so made and attested shall be as valid and effectual in law as if it had been made in the manner prescribed by the Act of the 5th and 6th William IV. chapter 62, section 9.

"Provided always that nothing herein contained shall affect the right of any Ordinary to require the attendance of churchwardens and sidesmen at the Visitation of such Ordinary."

THE BURIAL FEES BILL.

The following is the text of the Burial Fees Bill that has been introduced by Mr. Brinton, M.P. for Kidderminster:—

"Existing Ecclesiastical Burial Fees to Cease on the Death or Removal of the Existing Recipients.

"1. All claims to ecclesiastical fees on burials or burial services, except such as are hereinafter provided for, which may now by custom or statute be payable to the rector, vicar, or incumbent, or to the parish clerk, or to the sexton of any parish or ecclesiastical district, on the occasion of a burial in any parish churchyard, or in any parochial cemetery, shall cease and determine (as regards the fees due to each respectively) on the death or removal of the existing rector, vicar, incumbent, parish clerk, or sexton of such parish or ecclesiastical district.

"Ecclesiastical Burial Fees payable in Future for performing a Burial Service.

"2. The successor to any existing rector, vicar, or incumbent of any parish or ecclesiastical district, or the person acting on his behalf, shall be entitled to demand from any person, heretofore liable to pay burial fees, one of the under-mentioned fees, or any smaller fees, for a service actually performed by him or on his behalf, but not otherwise, at the interment of any person having a right of interment in the burial-ground of such parish or district, and not buried at a special hour, that is to say—

"1. For reading the Burial Service of the Church of England applicable to cases where the corpse is taken into the church, 2s. 6d.

"2. For reading the Burial Service of the Church of England applicable to cases where the corpse is not taken into the church, 1s. 6d.

"3. For reading either service at the burial of a person buried at the expense of the parish, 1s.;

Provided, that nothing in this Act shall entitle the rector, vicar, or other incumbent of any parish or ecclesiastical district to demand any larger ecclesiastical burial fee than has been heretofore lawfully payable to the incumbent of such parish.

"Fees for Burials at Special Hours.

"3. The authority having control of any parish churchyard or parochial cemetery in which this Act has come into operation, is hereby required to fix suitable hours for the free burial, or for the burial at fees sanctioned by this Act, of persons having rights of interment in such churchyard or cemetery, and such hours shall be publicly notified in the parish or parishes concerned; and if an hour be specially fixed for a burial which is not within the time thus allotted, the officiating clergyman may demand a double fee for reading the Burial Service at such special hour.

"Compulsory Payments to Officials of the Church of England by Cemetery Companies established under Local Acts to cease.

"4. The ecclesiastical burial fees which any cemetery company established under any local Act is required by such local Act to pay to the rector, vicar, incumbent, parish clerk, or sexton of any parish or district referred to in such local Act, shall cease to be a compulsory payment by such cemetery company (as regards the fees due to each respectively) after the death or removal of the existing rector, vicar, incumbent, parish clerk, or sexton of such parish or parishes, or district or districts.

"Compulsory Payments to Nonconforming Ministers by Cemetery Companies established under Local Acts to cease.

"5. Any burial fee which any cemetery company established under a local Act is now required by such local Act to pay to a Nonconforming minister, or other person conducting a burial service over the body of any deceased person buried by such cemetery company, shall cease to be a compulsory payment by such cemetery company on and after the passing of this Act, except in the case of any Nonconforming minister or other person who before the passing of this Act actually received from any cemetery company for the performance of a burial service the burial fee or fees imposed by the local Act under which such cemetery company was formed.

"Right to Levy Fees for Tablets, Gravestones, and Monuments to cease.

"6. *From and after the passing of this Act* it shall not be lawful for the successor to any existing rector, vicar, incumbent, parish clerk, or sexton to levy fees from persons who from time to time erect tablets or gravestones or monuments, with or without memorial inscriptions thereon, to the memory of any deceased person, or who place railings round gravestones or monuments, any law or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

"Existing Ecclesiastical Burial and other Fees to be publicly notified until this Act comes into force in any Parish.

"7. Until the provisions for regulating ecclesiastical burial fees contained in sections 2 and 6 of this Act come into operation by the death or removal of the person or persons now entitled to receive ecclesiastical fees on burials or burial services or fees in respect of tablets, gravestones, or monuments, such person or persons shall not, *from and after the thirty-first December, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-two,* be entitled to claim or to recover the amount of such fees from those who may be liable to pay them, unless he or they shall, at his or their own cost, have printed and published, and exhibited on a board placed and continued on some conspicuous part of the churchyard or graveyard in regard to which the fees are levied, a table showing the ecclesiastical burial fees demanded in such churchyard or graveyard.

"Powers of Burial Boards to make Charges to remain intact.

"8. Nothing in this Act shall prevent any burial board, borough, council, or vestry, from making such charges, and in receiving such payments, in respect of interments, monuments, and funeral services connected with any graveyard under their management, as they have been hitherto authorised to make, provided that such charges and payments are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.

"No Restriction as to the Site for a Grave on account of Religious or other Opinions.

"9. *From and after the passing of this Act* no regulations for any parish churchyard or parochial cemetery shall impose any restriction as to the free selection of a site for a grave, whether paid for or not, on account of the religious or other opinion of the deceased person for whose body the grave is intended.

"Application of Act.

"10. This Act shall apply to England only.

"Limitation of Act.

"11. This Act shall not extend to interments in the Cathedral church of St. Paul's, London, or in the collegiate church of St. Peter's, Westminster.

"Short Title.

"12. This Act may be cited as the 'Ecclesiastical Burial Fees Regulation Act, 1882.'"

Mr. Forster, Chief Secretary, returned to Dublin on Tuesday, and on the following day visited Limerick, and some of the most disturbed districts in that neighbourhood.

Stained Glass.—The Royal establishment of Mayer and Co., of Munich, whose London show-rooms are at 149, New Bond-street, submit, free of charge, designs for any windows in contemplation. Their works are executed in accordance with the style of architecture, in very best and richest pot-metal glass, or, if desired, with enamel and perspective drawings like in the windows of the Cathedrals of London, Glasgow, Cologne, and others.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY
(Limited).

Chief Office:—HOLBORN BARS, LONDON, E.C.

Summary of the Thirty-Third Annual Report,
For the year ending 31st December, 1881.

In the Ordinary Branch the New Business completed during the year consists of 6,949 Policies, assuring the sum of £860,172, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £31,603 4s. 8d. The claims of the year amount to £69,677 17s. 1d., under 474 Policies, representing 432 Deaths and 22 Endowment Assurances matured.

The rate of expenses of the Branch is Ten and a-half per cent. on the Premium Income, being less than that of last year.

Attention is drawn to the large New Premium Income in this Branch, particularly to the increase of the premium receipts, which are upwards of £21,000 more than in the previous year, being the largest increase which has been obtained in the history of the Company.

The Premiums actually received during the year in the Industrial Branch are £1,849,494 18s. 5d., as compared with the sum of £1,608,849 8s. 7d. received during 1880, being an increase of Premium Receipts of £240,645 9s. 10d., the largest which has taken place in this Branch.

The Claims of the year amount to £639,752 10s. 1d., and the total amount of Claims paid in this Branch is £3,786,112.

SUMMARY OF THE QUINQUENNIAL REPORT.

It will be seen that the results of the Valuation completely justify the Annual Reports which the Directors have from time to time presented.

The rate of expenditure during the Quinquennium has been reduced SIX per cent. in the Industrial Branch. There is every reason to believe that the reduction in the Industrial Branch will be continued.

In the Ordinary Branch the Annual Premium Income has increased from £83,245 to £142,732, and the Assurance Fund from £473,862 to £744,583.

In the Industrial Branch the increase in the Annual Premium Income has been from £980,575 to £2,051,024 and the Assurance Fund from £373,492 to £1,721,492.

The Directors would draw attention to the Report made by Mr. A. H. BAILEY on the results of the Valuation, and to his approval of the methods adopted by the Company's Actuaries.

It is gratifying to know that these results have been secured after fully providing for every liability, and after adding a considerable amount to the Contingency Fund and carrying forward a large balance in each Branch.

EXTRACT FROM MR. A. H. BAILEY'S REPORT.

I have carefully examined the several papers which you have placed in my hands containing the results of the Valuation of the Liabilities of your Company to the 31st December, 1881. During the progress of the work, which has occupied several months, and on which more than 600 persons have been engaged, I have had opportunities of inspecting the various processes that have been employed, and of satisfying myself of the care and pains that have been taken to ensure accuracy throughout.

Your business is derived mainly from the large classes of the community whose means will admit of their effecting Life Assurance for small or very moderate sums only, and whom the greater number of the existing Life Assurance Societies have been unable or unwilling to reach. In furtherance of this object the business of the Company is divided into two Branches, for each of which separate accounts are kept and separate investments made.

(1.) The Ordinary Branch, in which the Premiums are payable in most cases annually, but sometimes half-yearly or quarterly. (2.) The Industrial Branch, in which all the Premiums without exception are payable weekly.

Ordinary Branch.—For the Policies on single lives for the whole term with profits, which constitute the bulk of the risks, the average amount assured by each policy is nearly £137, the average Annual Premium £4 8s. 6d., or at the rate of £3 4s. 9d. per cent. on the sum assured.

From Mr. Hughes' report it will be observed that the number of policies in force (exclusive of annuities) is 31,616, the Premium Income being £142,642. The business of this Branch alone is, therefore, of considerable magnitude and importance.

The Valuation of the Liabilities has been made upon a basis the effect of which is to require a larger Reserve than most Life Assurance Companies retain or think necessary.

Industrial Branch.—In this Branch the average amount assured by each Policy is £9 4s. 10d., the average weekly premium almost exactly 2d., being at the rate of £4 12s. 1d. per cent. per annum on the sum assured. The number of policies in force is 4,822,519, so that the lives assured comprise about one-eighth of the entire population of Great Britain and Ireland. The annual premium income is £2,051,024.

Experience has shown that for business of this character two conditions are indispensable; the premiums must be payable weekly and agents must be employed to call regularly for their collection. These two conditions occasion heavy expense, and as a necessary consequence the rates of premium are and must be higher than the Ordinary Branch. But offering as you do both systems of assurance to the public, you find that the majority are willing to pay the higher rates for the convenience of the weekly receipt and collection of the premiums.

Careful consideration has been given to the principles upon which these liabilities should be valued, comprehending risks from infancy to extreme old age. By the requirements of the Act of Parliament returns have to be made to the Board of Trade of the sums assured and premiums payable at every age of life, and calculations have been made of the present value of these quantities for all the policies in force. But of the recently effected policies, a large proportion are on the lives of children, with whom the risk of death diminishes, instead of increasing, as they become older; again, a large number of these recently effected policies are allowed to lapse after they have been a short time only in force. To such policies, therefore, it seems to me that the usual methods of Valuation are not properly applicable.

It was therefore decided, as explained in Mr. Dewey's report, that for all Whole Life Policies exceeding £50, all Endowment and Joint Life Assurances, and all other policies which had been five years in force, and where the lives assured were above ten years of age, a reserve should be made on the same principles as in the Ordinary Branch, except that the Tables of Mortality employed should be the English *Life* Tables.

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, MARCH 4.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The most important event of the week to loyal subjects is the happily unsuccessful attempt made on Thursday afternoon to take the life of our beloved QUEEN. On HER MAJESTY'S return to Windsor from London, where, on the previous day, she had been holding a very numerously attended Drawing Room, a large crowd had as usual assembled at the station. As the carriage started, a man, who states his name to be RODERICK MACLEAN, and that he is a grocer's assistant out of work, took a revolver from his pocket and deliberately fired at HER MAJESTY. Providentially the shot did not take effect, the aim of the would-be assassin having, it is said, been defeated by the prompt action of some Eton boys, who, seeing what he was about, caught his arm, and lowered the level of the revolver, so that the bullet, missing the Royal carriage, struck a goods truck immediately behind it. MACLEAN was at once seized by the police, who had some difficulty in saving him from being lynched by the bystanders, and the carriage drove off without stopping to the Castle. The QUEEN preserved a perfectly calm demeanour, and apparently her only anxiety was to ascertain if anyone else had been hurt, and her calmness encouraged the Princess BEATRICE, who had, on seeing the would-be assassin raise his pistol, uttered a slight scream, but recovered her composure immediately on finding that the murderous attempt had failed. The news at once spread throughout the country, calling forth expressions of loyalty and thankfulness in every quarter. At the various theatres the National Anthem was sung with loud applause, and at different public meetings which were being held when the news arrived, however varied may have been the object of the meeting the same spirit was shown, and resolutions were adopted expressing horror and indignation at the attempted crime. We are glad to learn that, notwithstanding the shock to her nerves, HER MAJESTY has experienced no ill-effects, and that she not only joined the Royal dinner-party as usual, but slept quietly during the night.

The Chamber of Deputies voted on Saturday the measure foreshadowed by M. TIRARD last week, according to English imports the advantage of "the most favoured nation clause," and on Monday it was adopted by the Senate. So as the treaties with other nations, which are about to be renewed, do not expire till the 15th May, this practically continues till that period the existing provisions of our CORDEN-NAPOLEON Treaty. Lord HARTINGTON glorifies this result of the negociations as a tribute to the dignified position which our Commissioners took up, and claims credit for there having been no haggling or bargaining on our part. This may possibly have been owing to our having nothing to offer to France as an equivalent for any concessions she might be prepared to make, as it is not easy to haggle or bargain when there is nothing to haggle or bargain with. The SECRETARY of STATE for INDIA also comforted the Chambers of Commerce by reminding them that the acceptance of a treaty which contained any principles of retrogression would have been a vital blow to the principle of Free Trade. He did not, however, explain how any Commercial Treaty at all could be reconciled with that principle. Nor is it altogether consolatory to those who suffer by the failure to renew the Treaty to be assured that the no bread of Free Trade is better than the half-loaf which might have apparently been secured for them if the position of the Commissioners had been less dignified.

The great Nihilist trial at St. Petersburg was brought to a conclusion on Monday, when ten of the prisoners were sentenced to death and the rest to various terms of penal servitude. There seems no doubt of the guilt of the conspirators thus severely punished, though State trials are managed very differently in Russia from the way they are managed in England, and there are not a few circumstances connected with that just closed which appear harsh and strange to an English observer. But we must remember the desperate nature of the malady, and make allowance for the severity with which it is stamped out. A less pardonable evidence of the difference between Russian and Western civilisation is to be found in the revelation of the horrible atrocities perpetrated by the mob upon their unhappy Jewish victims, and the culpable negligence of the officials in affording protection to their Hebrew fellow-subjects. The evidence which has been collected and published in the course of the past week by the Russian Jew Committee proves that there has been no exaggeration in the tales of outrage, of murder, and of robbery which have been previously reported, and on which the protests, not of Jewish sympathisers and enemies of Russia, but of sympathisers with oppressed humanity and enemies of fiendish cruelty, have been based. We all know how fierce a wild beast is an undisciplined mob, especially when fanaticism and fancied—sometimes real—ground of complaint against the victim are added to the natural tendency of such a mob to indulge their lust, their cupidity, and their cruelty. But the worst feature of the recent outbreak has been the indifference with which the police and the authorities have stood by during the perpetration of the most atrocious outrages, and the light and almost nominal punishment inflicted by the magistrates upon those few of the perpetrators of these outrages who have been unlucky enough to be brought to justice.

The fighting in the Herzegovina continues, and the Austrian Generals and troops have hard work before them. It is said that there were no less than twenty-eight encounters between them and the insurgents between the 16th and the 28th February in the course of the combined attack made by General JOVANOVICS and his lieutenants. In most of these encounters the insurgents have been driven back with considerable loss, that of the Austrians been small, and at Serajevo they have suffered a severe repulse, against which must be set the reported victory of STOJAN KOVASEVIC over a strong party of Austrian troops on the Drina. This latter, however, rests only on a Slavonic report of which the authenticity is questionable. The severities of a winter campaign and an outbreak of smallpox are telling on the Imperial and Royal troops, of whom no less than 10 per cent. are in hospital, but, at the same time, it cannot be doubted that if the insurgents are not aided from without they must before long be crushed by the superior forces at the disposal of their adversary. This it is which lends so much importance to General SKOBELEFF'S inflammatory harangues and to the hopes based upon them of aid from the Slavonic sympathisers with the movement, whether in Russia or in Servia.

In the House of Lords on Friday week the members to serve on Lord DONOUGHMORE'S Committee were nominated, despite some opposition based on the PREMIER'S threatening notice of motion. It was, however, obvious that the natural effect of such a motion would be to compel the Lords to persevere with their Committee rather than to abandon it at the dictate of the PRIME MINISTER. Even Lord DERBY, while strongly urging such an abandonment, expressed his regret that there should have been any attempt from any quarter outside to interfere with or pass judgment upon the exercise of the undoubted right of the House of Lords, and Lord SALISBURY pointed out the serious effect upon the action of that House, for the future of a submission to the arbitrary dictates of the Ministry of the day.

The House of Commons has not been called upon during the week to proceed with the *clôture* resolutions, which seem to have for the

time lost their attraction for Mr. GLADSTONE in the yet more agreeable prospect of gagging the House of Lords. Even this delightful sport rather hangs fire, and the discussion on the PREMIER'S motion, both on Monday and again on Thursday evening, has had little of the interest which ordinarily attaches to a first-class constitutional debate. A preliminary skirmish took place on the postponement of the orders of the day, which was voted by the large majority of 133, partly explained by the fact that the Conservative leaders were forced into a division by the Irish, after a number of members had left the House not expecting to divide; but also, we must own, in a great measure attributable to the cohesive effect of the preliminary meeting at Mr. GLADSTONE'S upon the shattered fragments of the Ministerial majority. Then Mr. GLADSTONE made his big speech against the House of Lords with which we have elsewhere dealt; and after it there seemed a probability of the debate collapsing—owing to the dinner-hour influence, so strongly felt last week by the Irish ATTORNEY-GENERAL, had not Mr. GIBSON come to the rescue and moved the previous question in a speech of singular ability, which, however, failed to convince Mr. GLADSTONE of the correctness of the proposition which that Right Honourable Gentleman had singularly enough affirmed by his vote some three-and-forty years ago, that "it "is not fitting that this House should adopt a "proceeding which has the appearance of "calling in question the undoubted right of "the House of Lords to inquire into the "state of Ireland." The lapse of nearly fifty years is, of course, an excuse for Mr. GLADSTONE having changed his opinion—though the constitutional question involved is not one to be affected by lapse of time—but it is certainly curious that a precedent so exactly in point should have been capable of being quoted against him.

Tuesday evening was again given up to Ireland, but this time it was not the House of Lords but "MICHAEL DAVITT, Esq., of Port-"land Prison," as he is officially described in the return, who occupied the attention of the Commons. When the electors of Meath returned a convict merely as a response to the message of peace, they could not have expected that their nominee should have been granted a ticket-of-leave to take his seat, and the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL that he was incapable of being elected or returned might have seemed only the natural consequence of the defiance hurled at the Saxon by them. But a discussion was raised not only by the Irish members but by some others which occupied the greater part of the evening, though not suggesting anything by which Mr. DAVITT'S case could be made to appear more doubtful than Mr. MITCHELL'S, which was a precedent in point. In the end, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S motion was carried by 208 to 20, but the issue of a new writ was suspended to allow Mr. EGAN to claim the seat should he deem it worth while to raise the curious point of law suggested on his behalf, that having been once nominated he could not be withdrawn, the only other candidate being disqualified.

The Prince of WALES has been, as usual, working hard during the week, presiding on Monday at a meeting to promote the holding of an International Fisheries Exhibition; on Tuesday at another meeting on behalf of the proposed Royal College of Music; and on Wednesday at the dinner of the Civil Service Volunteers. Of course, on each occasion he had to make a speech, and it is pleasant to find how completely to the satisfaction of his hearers he acquitted himself. Indeed, we may say that on Tuesday, despite the assemblage of notables which gathered to support him at St. James's Palace, he and the Duke of EDINBURGH made by far the most business-like and profitable speeches of all those who addressed the meeting. They seemed really to know more about the proposed College of Music, the necessity for such an institution, and the best means of carrying it out, than the other speakers selected, though so strangely assorted a pair as the Archbishop of CANTERBURY and Lord ROSEBERY made amusing capital out of their own ignorance, and Mr. GLADSTONE and Sir STAFFORD NORTHCOTE relieved the monotony of their Parliamentary duets by a friendly rivalry in story-telling on the subject of their experience of Church music. The Ministry and the Opposition met in like manner on neutral ground on the previous day at Willis's Rooms, when Lord GRANVILLE and Lord SALISBURY ably seconded the efforts of the two Royal Princes in the cause of the Fisheries Exhibition, as their colleagues in the Lower House had seconded the efforts of the same Princes on behalf of an institution which was to be to England the recognised head and centre of the musical world. Both objects have received cordial promises of support, but we own that we feel more hopeful as to the success of the Fisheries Exhibition than as to that of the Royal School of Music.

The constituency of Northampton have again, though by a somewhat diminished majority, returned CHARLES BRADLAUGH, Esq., as their representative in Parliament. We own that we shared the general hope that the result of a fresh election might be to get rid of the "nice question" of which the PREMIER speaks, and to relegate the Atheist member to the limbo of exhausted volcanoes. His insulting conduct towards the House of Commons was calculated, it might have been thought, to alienate the moderate Liberals, however indifferent they might be to the insult offered to a Higher Power, and Mr. SAMUEL MORLEY did his best this time to neutralise the ill-effects of the testimonial which he gave on a previous occasion to a candidate whose Atheism he had condoned in consideration of his opposition to Lord BEACONSFIELD. But the hopes of such a solution of the BRADLAUGH difficulty have been disappointed, and the House of Commons is again brought face to face with that difficulty. Once again the leader of the Opposition will have to do what the leader of the House ought to do. The combat is delayed for the present owing to the official return not having arrived, but it is probable, as far as anything is probable in the present session, that ere we again write Mr. BRADLAUGH will again have attempted to profane the oath, that his attempt will again have been frustrated by the large majority of the House, and that if he persevere in his attempt to force his way in he will have been excluded from the precincts. We do not look with any pleasure on such struggles as these, where the glory of victory is small, but if the PRIME MINISTER will not act up to the principles which he has again and again professed in former days, the task of defending us against those who, to quote Mr. GLADSTONE'S own language, "would tear up by the roots all that "is dear to us, and all that makes life valuable," must not be refused by the party whose motto still is for GOD, the Sovereign, and the People. We cannot look on the return of Mr. BRADLAUGH as a Conservative defeat, any more than we could have regarded his defeat as a Conservative triumph. It is not the question of a vote more or less on one side of the House or the other, but it is the yet more serious defeat of order and of religion, which ought to be of no politics, by disorder and atheism. It is as Englishmen, not merely as Conservatives, that we deplore the infatuation of the constituency of Northampton. Mr. BRADLAUGH is indeed a worthless idol, but we know from many a sad experience that the unworthiness of the idol often does but enhance the fidelity of its worshippers.

Talking of popular idols reminds us of JUMBO, who has evoked the same amount of indiscriminating enthusiasm among the inhabitants of London as Mr. BRADLAUGH has among the burgesses of Northampton. We would not wrong the worthy elephant by putting him on the same level as his rival so far as regards his personal merits, but there is a strong resemblance between them in the difficulty to account in either case for the enthusiasm which they have called forth. The Council of the Zoological are denounced as if they had been guilty of Bulgarian horrors or anti-Semitic atrocities, and yet the head and front of their offending seems to be that, having some time since made up their minds to part with JUMBO on account of his reaching a time of life when he might be dangerous, unless he could have more exercise than that which he now gets in carrying up and down the gravel walk his youthful admirers, they have now accepted Mr. BARNUM'S offer of £2,000. It is to be observed that Mr. BARNUM'S show travels about, thus supplying JUMBO with the needful exercise, and that it is not a mere question of the Society going to the expenses of iron and brickwork advocated by Mr. RUSKIN to make his house safe, but if they did make his house safe they would in all probability be soon compelled to make him safe after the same manner as his poor predecessor, CHUNEE, at Exeter Change. Surely, even the gushing writers in the *Daily Telegraph* would prefer their old friend submitting to the degradation of forming part of a travelling menagerie under Mr. BARNUM to his becoming the victim of a firing party of Her Majesty's Footguards. But, meanwhile, the commotion caused by the proposal has been a very good advertisement of JUMBO on both sides of the Atlantic. The visitors to the Zoological Gardens have enormously increased during the past week; and all Yankeedom is on the tiptoe of expectation, ready to welcome him to the American strand.

THE QUEEN.

The first and most natural feeling with which every loyal subject received the news of the attempted assassination of the QUEEN, which spread like wildfire on Thursday evening throughout England, was that of devout thankfulness to the DIVINE PROVIDENCE which had preserved a life so valuable to us all. It is not without a shudder that we can contemplate the possibility of what might have been, or even in thought place the English people in the position which our American brethren lately occupied watching by the bedside of a beloved ruler stricken down by the hand of a ruthless murderer. From that long agony we have been providentially preserved, and the failure of so dastardly an attempt can only have the effect of deepening that true and loyal devotion which the many virtues of Queen VICTORIA have aroused in the hearts of her people. But how narrow has been the escape of the QUEEN from a sudden death and of her country from an overwhelming calamity! A little more readiness on the part of the assassin, a little less readiness on the part of the bystanders, and the murder of Queen VICTORIA might have taken its place in the blackest pages of history beside that of General GARFIELD. The discovery of the bullet has done away with the flattering unction which so many were at first inclined to lay to their souls, that the intention of the criminal was merely to gain an unhealthy notoriety, and that he had no real thought of committing the crime of regicide. It was not merely to startle and to alarm the first Lady of the land, but with the deliberate purpose of killing her, that MACLEAN took up his position at the station at Windsor. In ordinary cases it would not be right to prejudge one who will have to stand at the bar of justice to answer to so terrible an accusation as that of attempted murder; but here, where the would-be murderer is caught in the very act, there need be no such scruple. One question, indeed, remains to be decided on his trial, and that is, what was the state of his mind when he raised his hand to fire a shot which, had it reached its destined aim, would have had consequences so terrible? That his intention was to murder is beyond doubt, but his sanity or insanity ought not now to be discussed. We sincerely trust, not merely for the sake of the unhappy culprit himself, but for that of his countrymen, on whose fair fame, as a loyal and a grateful people, he has brought a stain, that he may be found not to be responsible for his actions. Indeed it would seem as if none but a madman could have been found to raise a hand against one so much beloved by her people and so worthy of her people's love. But it must not be forgotten that the absence of reasonable motives for the commission of a crime is not in itself evidence of insanity, though there is a kind of general conspiracy among the mad doctors against the sane portion of the community to treat it as such. So though we may hope that MACLEAN'S insanity will be satisfactorily proved, it must be so proved by other evidence than the cruel, the objectless, the unnatural character of his crime. If the question of his sanity be determined in the affirmative, then will arise another question, not so much directly affecting the wretched criminal himself, who will in that case meet with his well-merited punishment, but of great importance to the public. Is his act the isolated act of an individual criminal, like GUITEAU, or is his merely the hand which has carried out the diabolical sentence passed by some secret society, such as that which doomed to death the late Czar of RUSSIA? His own statements, as far as they are known at the time we write, point to the former, but it is difficult to reconcile his apparent abject poverty with the possession of the almost new revolver with which he attempted to effect his purpose. We put aside for the moment the rumours that he had been seen on the previous evening at a publichouse exhibiting a considerable amount of loose silver, and treating those he met there to drink, for these require confirmation. But, apart from such further evidence, the possession of the revolver has to be accounted for by those whose view of the case is that he is merely a wretched outcast in whom "long-continued poverty has bred all "manner of rebellious, weakly, insensate "notions." Such an explanation, like that of insanity, would be a welcome alternative to the other and the more alarming suggestion that he is a desperate man doing the bidding of other desperate men. We do most sincerely trust that there is no foundation for such a suggestion. If, however, there be any, even the slightest, foundation for it, the danger is not got rid of by shutting our eyes to it. There is an evil spirit abroad, and the very foundations of social order are shaken. Murder stalks red-handed and unrebuked over the Irish land. Is it so clear that the silver streak of St. George's Channel guards our own shore from its votaries? Political assassination is not, thank Heaven, an English form of crime; but the theory of the dagger has met with support ere now among those who ought to have known better. But while we must be prepared to face this most terrible solution of the mystery which at the present overhangs the attempt of MACLEAN, we deprecate as strongly as anyone can the elevation of MACLEAN himself into an object of sensational curiosity. We would also deprecate the lesson which one of our contemporaries is prepared to draw from his crime, that the QUEEN'S continued absence from her capital is to be attributed to the dread of such an attempt, and that it more than justifies her in regarding Windsor as too near London. Such an idea is negatived by the calm and quiet dignity of the QUEEN herself, her freedom from excitement, even at the very moment of the utmost danger, and the moment, perhaps yet more trying to the nerves, when she realised that she had been preserved from that danger. Such would not be the conduct of one who went daily in dread of the presence of the assassin. Such conduct, too, furnishes an example which her subjects will do well to follow, and is a reproof to any unnecessary and effusive demonstration of loyalty, such as might be expected to gush forth in the columns of the paper that was wont to claim the largest circulation in the world. In quietness and in confidence should be the strength of English loyalty, more especially when the object of that loyalty shows so good an example of both.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE LORDS.

The whirligig of Time brings round its revenge; and the very statesman who followed Sir ROBERT into the lobby in support of the right of the House of Lords to inquire into the state of Ireland now regards the exercise of that right as an offence of the deepest dye. A considerable amount of blame has been showered upon the Peers for their action in the matter, but without going again into the question of the wisdom or unwisdom of the original appointment of the Committee, which was discussed last week, it is quite clear that it is not the Lords who are to blame for the conflict between the two Houses. Had Lord GRANVILLE been commissioned to speak in the Upper House as strongly as Mr. GLADSTONE has elected to speak in the Lower, the assurance of the Executive, that the proposed Committee would be injurious to the interests of good government in Ireland—difficult as it is to see how such an assurance can be given with truth—would no doubt have carried weight. But Lord GRANVILLE, as we have before pointed out, rested his case on inconvenience, not on actual danger, which is a very different thing. Of the balance of convenience or inconvenience the House of Lords might fairly judge: on the question of danger they would be more ready to rely on the statement of those responsible for the maintenance of law and order in Ireland who might fairly be assumed to have special means of forming an opinion on such a subject not accessible to those outside the official circle. It will further be observed that, even on the second of the now famous Fridays, Lord GRANVILLE carefully abstained from dwelling on the terrible effects which the Lords' Committee were to produce on the "good government" now prevailing in Ireland. Had he done so and made an appeal, even at the last moment, to the House of Lords, in the manner and in the place in which such an appeal ought to have been made, it is probable that it would have been acceded to. At all events, such a representation would have had a far higher claim to succeed than the threatening resolution of the PRIME MINISTER, which, with his usual suavity, but hardly with his usual accuracy, the FOREIGN SECRETARY described as *not* being a vote of censure on the House of Lords. But to have adopted this course would have frustrated the tactics of the Head of the

Government and deprived him of the opportunity of combining business with pleasure—that is, of consolidating his scattered forces and insulting the Upper House—which appeared to be presented to him. It was not in Mr. Gladstone's nature to reject such an opportunity merely on the ground that, in order to take advantage of it, he must of necessity involve England in a crisis which even a favourable critic describes as having "interfered "gravely with the business of Parliament, and "thrown the country into unnecessary and fac-"titious excitement." But such an interference with the "interests of good government" is excusable, and more than excusable, when its object is to gratify Mr. Gladstone's spite against the House of Lords, and to rally round him those stray members of his Liberal flock whose faith in their shepherd has been rudely shaken by the blunders at home and the blunders abroad which make up the history of Mr. Gladstone's present Administration. So Lord Granville was forbidden to urge upon the House of Lords in the shape of argument, what Mr. Gladstone was prepared to urge in the shape of threat. Nor was recourse had to those unofficial *pourparlers* with which a less vindictive and overbearing Minister would have negotiated a compromise, had his object really been to prevent the Lords' Committee from interfering with "the first purpose of Government and the "highest ends of society," as the words would be generally understood. But if we interpret them in the sense which the Prime Minister probably applied to them in that mysterious inner consciousness of his which has done, is doing, and seems likely to do, so much mischief to that which those words as generally used really signify—if we understand by the "first purpose of Government" the retention of office, and by the "highest ends of society" the presence of Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues on the Treasury Bench, we at once see the ground of his action. The meeting of the Liberal members at Downing-street on Monday will be to the exclusively party politician an ample vindication of it, and even good Conservatives, much as they may regret the consequences of a temporary restoration of affection between the Premier and his supporters, must be glad to find Mr. Gladstone returning to the more constitutional method of calling his party together and explaining to them the course which he proposes to adopt, instead of relying—as he has of late shown so much tendency to rely—on the slave-driver method of influencing their votes. If the Liberals are to vote *en masse* for anything when Mr. Gladstone wishes, it is better that they should do so under the seductive influence of Mr. Gladstone's eloquence than at the imperious bidding of Mr. Chamberlain's caucus. Having gained this end the Premier might well have been satisfied, but those observers at home or abroad who expected him to be satisfied, and to welcome any conciliatory overtures made by the House of Lords, reckoned without their Mr. Gladstone. They forgot that his vindictiveness had to be gratified, as well as his authority vindicated. One, and probably to him the more important, of the two objects which he had in view remained unaccomplished unless he could use his battalions, thus restored to their allegiance, for the purpose of inflicting a useless insult on the Upper House. So, though the Committee of the House of Lords have, to avoid the constitutional question thus forced upon them, done all that they can, and perhaps more than their dignity would allow, to meet the "explicit declaration" of the Premier, and have formally excluded from the scope of their investigation the judicial administration of the Act—the word "judicial," it should be borne in mind, was, as Sir Stafford Northcote pointed out, not in the resolution of the House of Lords itself—Mr. Gladstone has withdrawn from that declaration and has allowed the time of the House of Commons—that precious time which he regards as so valuable that he is prepared to sacrifice to it the freedom of speech of everybody, except himself — to be wasted in a debate which is far more likely to interfere with the working of the Land Act than any number of sittings of the Lords' Committee. Should he persevere in carrying his motion to a division, it will doubtless be supported by the now obedient majority; but, in the meantime, the judicial as well as the injudicious administration of the Land Act, the dissatisfaction with it of every class, the injustice done to the landlord, the inadequacy of it to satisfy the tenant, are being exposed in a series of speeches which would have found no opportunity of being delivered had Mr. Gladstone withdrawn his motion when it had accomplished its avowed, and the first of its unavowed, objects.

Reviews.

THE LAND OF KHEMI.*

Mr. Oliphant is well qualified to write with authority on the subject of Egypt, as his experience of it extends over forty years, and he has thus been enabled to judge of its progress between 1861 and 1881 as compared with the previous twenty years. But his present contribution to the already large mass of Egyptian literature is mainly due to the kindness of the authorities which has enabled him to spend some months in the interior, under unusually favourable circumstances, and in a region out of the way of the ordinary Cook's tourist, who may be described as the eleventh plague of Egypt. The volume now before us, which is entitled *The Land of Khemi*, takes its name from the old Egyptian form of the Biblical "Ham," while explaining that name as merely signifying "The Black Country," and being derived from the blackness of the soil. It is in the main a republication of a series of interesting articles which have recently appeared in *Blackwood's Magazine*, embodying the author's notes of a winter residence in Egypt, which, being merely the carrying out of a medical prescription, did not allow him, in his invalid condition, to profit by it to the extent which he would have wished, but at the same time enabled him to arrive at the conclusion that "even in a country so "well worn by the feet of tourists, there are "other things to be done in the valley of the hill "[query, Nile?] besides living in Shepheard's Hotel, "and going straight up to the Second Cataract "and back." Like all that Mr. Oliphant writes, his present book is full of life and vigour, and his attempt to popularise his historical or archæological views is invested, by his charm of style, with a considerable degree of attraction quite apart from the correctness of those views. He first established himself in the Fayoum of modern days, which was the Arsinoite Nome of the Greeks, and the Phiom, or district of the marsh, of the early Egyptians, there being a tradition still current among the country people that this marsh was reclaimed by no less important a personage than Joseph himself. Despite the enthusiastic terms in which this oasis of the desert has been described by ancient writers, it has received from modern travellers comparatively little attention. A French artist wrote, if we remember aright, a very amusing little book about it; but it is evident from Mr. Oliphant's description that his predecessor has, after the *voilà mon chameau* custom of his countrymen, drawn rather freely upon his imagination in describing the experience of himself and his brother artists in the Fayoum. This oasis is now reached by rail in a few hours from Cairo, a very unromantic but not altogether inconvenient substitution for the three days' camel journey formerly necessary, which would have proved an insuperable obstacle in the way of those travelling in search of health, like Mr. Oliphant and his wife. The loss of the romantic element must much strike the modern traveller in the land of Khemi; and a further instance of it is recorded by Mr. Oliphant when the head Sheikh of all the Bedouin tribes on both sides of the Birket-el-Kurûn is described as "living like a "civilised being in a large whitewashed two-"storeyed house." One of the first excursions made by the travellers after they had settled down in Medinet-el-Fayoum, the capital of the province, and practically the terminus of the railway as far as ordinary travel is concerned, was to the village of Hawara with its famous pyramid, which they found somewhat disappointing, and to the yet more famous Labyrinth, a strange accumulation of chambers and tortuous passages partly excavated by Lepsius, but deserving a more careful and detailed examination. The expedition was made by water, and Mr. Oliphant gives the following graphic picture of the aspect of the country as seen in the course of it:—

It was on a warm lovely morning in February that we spread ourselves on the carpet at the stern of the boat, and, towed by two sturdy *fellahin*, made our way against the current at the rate of about three miles an hour. As there is no regular towing-path, our progress is constantly impeded by overhanging trees, by projecting *sakkyas*, by the walls of mud-villages, which occasionally rise straight out of the water; and our trackers are sometimes wading waist-deep, sometimes running far into the bean-fields to turn the corners of creeks—sometimes one side becomes impossible, and we have to take them on board and transfer them to the opposite bank; but, in spite of all this, they push along with so much energy that we pass rapidly one or two old barges laden to the water's edge with manure-dust, but which are an extremely picturesque feature in the landscape—though, in so far as age and shape are concerned, they might advantageously figure in a museum of Egyptian antiquities. The banks are just too high to prevent our seeing much of the country over them, but they furnish us with glimpses of peasant life as we glide past the little mud-villages on their margin, where the women are engaged in their perpetual occupation of washing and filling their water-jars, or squatted opposite the dead wall of a house, are jerking to and fro a goat-skin bag containing milk, with a view in this primitive fashion of converting it into butter, and where half-naked men are standing in rows opposite each other as if they were going to dance Sir Roger de Coverley, when suddenly they fall to with ponderous flails, and thrash out the corn, accompanying their blows with a measured and not unmusical chant. Buffaloes, blindfolded in order that they may be spared a consciousness of the monotonous nature of their occupation, as they tramp slowly round in a circle, are grinding it, after it has been thrashed, in creaking mills, above which flocks of pigeons flutter round their quaint conical towers. Water is being dipped out of the canal by men in pairs working the double-lever *shadoofs*, who laboriously swing up and down the long bars weighted with mud at one end and with a basket-work bucket at other. Naked children of the tenderest years are paddling in the mud, or screaming with a virulence and pertinacity peculiar to the Arab infant. Amid these sights and sounds we glide gently through the rich country; and when from time to time we land, it is to look over an interminable expanse of wheat, beans, lentils, and clover, with here and there dark groves of date-trees clustered round villages on distant mounds. The whole country is lulled into a luxury of repose, which the lowing of cattle, the wail of the water-wheels, and the hum of distant voices seem rather to enhance than to disturb; and our noiseless mode of travel is in keeping with the universal calm. In fact there is a sort of Sunday feeling in the very air of Egypt, which the sleepy agricultural operations of the peasantry are too placid to destroy.

The attractions which the Fayoum possesses for the traveller are very great, and Mr. Oliphant's readers are likely to share his surprise at the neglect of it by the ordinary tourist. These attractions are thus painted by him:—

The sportsman, the artist, and the archæologist will all find their tastes gratified in this charming oasis. The Birket el Kurûn offers, probably, better sport to the angler than he would find elsewhere in Egypt. In the thickets in some of the ravines are to be found wild boar; while lynxes, wolves, jackals, ichneumons, and hares are more or less abundant. Pelicans, wild geese, ducks, teal, and water-fowl of different varieties, frequent the marshy shores of the lake. The antiquarian would find Arsinoë, the Labyrinth, the Temple of Kasr Karoon, and the ruins on the western shores of the lake, full, not merely of interest, but of possible discoveries. At Senoorîs there are the graves of the early Christians who are said to have been martyred, and the peasantry have no scruple in exhuming them to satisfy the curiosity of the anthropologist who desires to have a specimen of an early Christian's skull, or the curious coffins in which their corpses were placed; while the fortress-like village of Tamiyeh, the thicket-clad gorge of Fidimîn, and the broad precipitous *wady* at Naslet, would offer subjects for the artist of a character not to be found elsewhere in Egypt. It is true that modern no less than ancient writers have in some respects exaggerated the luxuriance of the Fayoum. One writes of "a virgin forest," and of "orange-trees as big as oaks;" and another of "a plantation of opuntia, the growth of which is so gigantic as almost to resemble a forest," which I happened to see, and which certainly fell far short of this description: but in spite of all this, there can be no doubt that the Fayoum possesses a charm denied to any other section of the country, and its brawling streams and verdant recesses will well repay the traveller in search of "fresh fields and pastures new."

But it can only be properly enjoyed by people strong enough to take their tents and camels and wander about in search of the picturesque. This Mr. and Mrs. Oliphant were not able to do, owing to their weak health, and they accordingly embarked on a Nile voyage, "poking about in a "leisurely manner," from various centres on the banks of the river, around mounds of ancient cities and cliffs honeycombed with tombs, which the Cook's tourist passes by without notice in his hasty run from Cairo up to the First and Second Cataract. But this mode of life brought them more closely into contact with the people of all classes than is the case with the ordinary visitor to Egypt. The squalid aspect of the mud villages, the thinly-clad population who cluster round the the dung-daubed hovels, give, as he says, a very erroneous idea of the country and its inhabitants to the passing traveller, and he finds evidence of increasing material prosperity all through Egypt. By thus wandering from the beaten track Mr. Oliphant was also able to do a good deal of archæological research in apparently new ground, and he has described with much spirit and vigour his dabblings in Egyptology. There are several amusing sketches of his explorations, either personal—as when he put his foot through the lid of a mummy-case and drew it back with the uncanny soft feeling of the mummy against it, and when on another occasion he was literally overpowered and driven back by the dense whizzing battalion of bats who charged him in the subterranean corridors of Tehneh—or vicarious as when he put two Arabs into a cave at Isembheh, "very much as one would put ferrets "into a rabbit hole." The value of such researches is much increased by the consideration that the priceless antiquities of Egypt are rapidly disappearing before the utilitarian spirit of the age; and even the most exacting of Egyptian bondholders must deplore the reckless destruction of the ancient monuments in order to make sugar more cheaply. Glorious fragments of old temples are worked into the foundations of sugar factories; in one case, which Mr. Oliphant records, a beautiful statue of Antinous in white marble was pounded into fragments to serve that ignoble purpose, and a stone inscribed with three languages, which might have proved of immense historical value, was in like manner broken up as a sacrifice to the cause of Western civilisation. Workmen "ruthlessly blasting the tomb covered with hiero-"glyphics and flinging the mummies into the Nile, "after appropriating whatever they have found "of value in the coffins," will make but short work with the priceless relics of the past which have survived centuries of neglect; and it is even more sad to think of their being thus sacrificed to supposed necessity for the development of the resources of the country, which might be just as well developed without the destruction of its choicest antiquities, than it is to dwell upon the painful disturbance in the interest, of history and science, of the last resting-places of the mighty dead of old time. But we cannot wonder that Mr. Oliphant should have found it difficult to shake off the feeling of being somewhat of a body-snatcher when prosecuting his researches, in all the newborn antiquarian ardour which his sojourn in Egypt called forth. It is indeed hard that the extra care shown by the old Egyptians for the preservation of the bodies of their dead should have only resulted in those bodies being dispersed far and wide, in many a museum and receptacle for curiosities. But the quaintest story of all connected with mummies is that which is thus recorded by Mr. Oliphant, and is quite new to us, as it will probably be to most of our readers:—

Perhaps the most remarkable experiences which have befallen the human remains of an ancient race occurred to some mummies that were taken to Paris, subsequently to the occupation of Egypt under the First Napoleon, and placed in the Louvre. After the curiosity in regard to them had worn off, they became a nuisance, and, owing to the peculiar conditions of climate, in the course of years slightly offensive. They had been stowed away in the garrets of the Louvre, and the curators had year after year been endeavouring to solve the problem of how they could most decently be got rid of, when the revolution of 1830 broke out. As everyone will remember, many of the heroes of that episode fell in the court of the Louvre. When the curators observed that graves were being dug for distinguished patriots and republicans under their very noses, the brilliant idea occurred to them to slip surreptitiously into the same resting-places the bodies of the ancient Egyptians which had for so long been a cause of embarrassment to them. With the inspiration of genius they seized the opportunity, and thus associated the past and the present of two great nations by a common sepulture of those who had been distinguished members of both. But the honour which had thus been conferred upon the mummies was nothing to what was yet in store for them. When the glorious days of 1848 arrived, it was decided to exhume the heroes who had been buried in the court of the Louvre, and remove them with great pomp and ceremony to the Place de la Bastille. The secret of the mummies' burial had been well kept; and when they were disinterred with their companions of modern date, to the superficial observer there was nothing to distinguish their bones from those of an ordinary French republican. They were therefore all exhumed together, and formed the most interesting, and possibly most respectable, part of the procession which traversed Paris on that occasion. Then magnificent funeral orations were made over them by fervid orators, who little suspected whose bones they were thus honouring; and to this day these mummies are awaiting the final moment under the Column of July.

The extracts which we have given will serve to show that Mr. Oliphant has lost none of his ancient literary skill; and the numerous circle of admirers who have delighted in his previous works, whether descriptive of Piccadilly, China, or Gilead, will find his new volume not less attractive than its predecessors. There are already so many books about Egypt that it might have seemed impossible to write anything fresh on so well-worn a theme; but Mr. Oliphant has certainly accomplished this seeming impossibility; and, whatever fault his reader may be driven to find with the *Land of Khemi*, it will certainly not be owing to any want of freshness in his treatment of his subject. His book is not unworthy of a place on the library shelf by the side of *Eothen*. It is full of characteristic touches; but perhaps the most "Oliphantastic" passage in the volume before us is the following, with which we must conclude our extracts:—

I suppose the result of any attempt to arrive at some definite idea of the religion of an ancient people by a study of the imperfect records and monuments of it which they may have left, depends very much upon the attitude of mind and theological prejudices which influence those who investigate it; and that if a philosophical commission were appointed two thousand years hence to report upon the religion of ancient Europe, an examination of the pictures of the Trinity, of the Madonna and Child, of the Scriptural illustrations upon the stained glass of the ruined Cathedrals, of the shrines of saints, of crucifixes, relics, and such fragments of the Bible—and especially of the Old Testament—as had survived the wreck of ages, supposing they could be preserved for so long a period—would lead them to construct a theology very different from the Christian religion, even as it exists at the present day in its purest form. They might possibly refer to it as a polytheistic or a pagan system penetrated with a very high moral quality, but nevertheless debased by many superstitions, degrading alike to the Creator and His worshippers. We are in the same difficulty in regard to the religion of the ancient Egyptians. If we assume the records of it which have descended to us to possess an esoteric meaning, they may contain a morality as pure, and a theology as profound, as any by which it has been succeeded. If we regard only its exoteric aspect, it possesses little claim upon our religious sentiments. Many of its external observances present a marvellous similarity to those of the Hebrews, which may possibly be accounted for to a great extent by the residence of the latter in Egypt. Thus, if we compare the ten Hermetic books relating to the Egyptian priesthood, with those of Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy, we find a remarkable agreement in ceremonial observance. The Egyptian altars of sacrifice may be seen in the Boulak museum; and we know that the laws concerning the choice of victims, purification, the dress of the priests, and the regulations to be observed by them while officiating, all bear so striking a resemblance to the Mosaic ceremonial, that we can scarcely suppose it to have been fortuitous.

* *The Land of Khemi.* By Laurence Oliphant.—Edinburgh and London: W. Blackwood and Sons, 1882.

ONESIMUS.*

Onesimus is to *Philochristus* what—to compare ingenious fiction with history—the Acts of the Apostles is to the four Gospels. The main portion of the volume, published a few years ago by the same author, is worked out in the volume just received. There is much of the same beauty of language, much of the same use of the remains of classical antiquity, much of the same knowledge of the conditions of life and modes of thought among the Jews and Romans—much, we must add, of the same attempt to disparage the authenticity of the Scripture which was one painful feature of *Philochristus*. The book before us now is an imaginary life of the slave of Philemon, worked out from the hints afforded chiefly by the brief Epistle of St. Paul to his convert Philemon, in which he solicits from his Christian master forgiveness for the fugitive slave. Onesimus is represented as trying by turns the Epicurean and Stoic philosophies, and finding them hollow and incapable of replying to the inquiries of his moral and intellectual nature. Whilst battling strenuously against his dawning convictions of the validity of the claims of Christianity, his heart is softened by the affliction which befals him in the death of his affianced bride and his judgment convinced by the arguments and teaching of the Apostle Paul, whom he had seen years before at Lystra. In tracing the influence of sorrow upon the heart the writer recals the incident of the unbelieving philosopher who, in our own times, was brought within sight of Christianity by overmastering grief at the death of his wife. The writer has made use of the information accumulated of late years as to the condition of the slave population within the limits of Greece and

* *Onesimus: Memoirs of a Disciple of St. Paul's.* By the Author of *Philochristus.*—London: Macmillan and Co.

Asia Minor with much effect. How far he has succeeded in representing their moral state is, it seems to us, questionable. Whether the natives of these countries had so lively a conscience as to the defiling nature of sensual sins appears to us more than doubtful. This, however, by the way.

The great—but to us painful—defect in this volume is the attitude taken by the writer against the miracles recorded in the Gospels. We say the miracles in the Gospels, for the writer does not question the possibility of miracles—he does not deny that such were worked in the days of the Incarnation. He attributes miracles to St. Paul beyond those related in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles to have been wrought by him: it is only our Lord who wrought none—or at least none of those recorded to have been done by Him. In this he is as inconsistent as the late John Stuart Mill, who tells us that miracles are antecedently possible, but only those of the New Testament improbable. The raising of Jarius's daughter was, perhaps, not a miracle; the account of the raising of the widow's son, he suggests, was deliberately foisted into the text by the loyal zeal of the Evangelists, and was invented by them through fear lest their Master should seem to possess less power than Elisha or Elijah; and the raising of Lazarus was the growth of their conviction that the other miracles had not sufficiently established the credit of our Lord, as one greater than the other prophets. His moral features, the grandeur of His works and words, and the applicability of His teaching to the needs of man—all this is conceded and even stated by the author; but miracles such as those which Elijah and Elisha and Peter and Paul worked, when attributed to the Saviour and Creator, are the results of misconception and a dishonest desire to enhance the reputation of the Master at the expense of truth, and prove at best the blunders of enthusiasm and the blindness of partisan zeal. We say the dishonest desire, for the invention of miracles, for whatever purpose, is an act of dishonesty. Now such a theory is at best a theory which obtains no support from history: it is the development from the inner consciousness of writers such as this one who has written *Onesimus*, a freak of fancy which has no claim to be listened to instead of the voice of history.

If there were any truth in the theory of the writer that the miracles of Christ were fictions, devout or otherwise, then the influence of Christianity upon the heart and life of the convert and the spread of Gospel truth would be a greater miracle than any that is impugned or suggested away by the writer. For it is a characteristic of this school of writers that what cannot be denied is by a side wind got rid of, and, as we have said, "suggested away." Indeed the tactics of the doubting school remind us much of the nursery tale of the couple melted into tears and sobbing over a picture of their imagination. If we married and had a son and he were to marry and had a daughter, and the daughter was one day walking by the river and she fell into it, and nobody was near and she was drowned, oh, what a trouble that would be! Now all these incidents are probable, and might possibly have happened, if this couple had married. This is parodied by this writer and others of his school. If men made a mistake and this or that miracle was never wrought, and if somebody thought that Christ would be undervalued without miracles, and if he said to somebody, and somebody said it again until a multitude of somebodies repeated it until they believed it, the belief in the miracle might have happened without any foundation. True; everyone of these suppositions is possible—they are, however, only suppositions—but, in the face of history, men put away such childish suppositions as those of the school represented by the author of *Onesimus*, and prefer the truth which has set them free from these vagrant idols of the imagination.

A PRINCE OF DICTIONARIES.*

The Imperial Dictionary is in every sense of the term a great work. Great pains have been bestowed upon it, great is the success it has attained, and great is its bulk. Two volumes of nearly 700 pages each, closely but legibly printed, represent but one-half of the present edition, and they are to be followed by two similar volumes carrying it on from the letter K, its present limit, to the end of the alphabet. The original book had attained a large and well-merited share of popular favour; and the new edition of it, now in course of publication, which has occupied some ten years in preparation, has been considerably enlarged, and is yet more worthy of acceptance as a standard work on the subject than its predecessors. It is stated that the separate entries comprised in it will exceed by about a third the former edition, which has won its way to general acceptance as among the best, if not the best, of the Lexicons of the English language which the industry and research of modern philology have supplied. We can fancy with what surprise and amazement Dr. Johnson would have regarded this latest development of the great work which he originally undertook single-handed; and whenever we open any of these and other no less bulky volumes full of the results of the most recent research we pause to pay a tribute to the memory of the man, who, without assistance from others, and with no previous book on which to base his efforts, boldly adventured upon the task of compiling the first English dictionary. But Johnson himself would have been the last to grudge to those who follow in his steps the credit of carrying out and developing the scheme which he was the first to originate; and we think that it would be with no less gratification than surprise that he would mark the perfection and excellence to which lexicography has been carried in such a book as that now before us. It is estimated that when the four volumes are published, they will contain in all some 130,000 words; and the notice of each word is most complete, registering and explaining the various meanings in which it has been employed by writers, new and old, tracing it when possible to its origin, distinguishing its current use from that which it formerly had, and further distinguishing it from other words closely synonymous. Nor does the *Imperial Dictionary* confine itself to a mere definition of each word; but when a bare definition would convey little or no information, it gives a brief but lucid account of the thing signified, thus supplying the place of an encyclopædia as well as a dictionary; and though it does not profess to contain all the terms of every art and science, it certainly contains a far greater proportion of them than can be found in any general work not devoted to special arts and sciences. Indeed, we may safely say that there is no technical term likely to be met with in general literature which is not here explained. To ensure accuracy in this respect, the services of specialists have been employed to aid the editor; and Mr. Annandale, to whom the task of revising and supplementing the labours of Dr. Ogilvie, the original editor of the *Imperial Dictionary*, has been entrusted, may well be congratulated on the result of his labours. For so numerous and extensive are the additions to, and the alterations in, the original dictionary, that it might be fairly regarded, not merely as a new edition of an old-established favourite, but as a new work, embodying all that was best in that old-established favourite. The protest contained in the preface to the first issue of the *Imperial Dictionary* against the charge so often preferred against such works, that they furnish but dry reading, may be yet more emphatically renewed on behalf of the present edition. We all remember the old story of the man who read *Johnson's Dictionary* through and expressed a high opinion of the author, but regretted that his style was so disconnected. There would be more excuse for the reader of the *Imperial Dictionary*, which contains so vast an amount of information so admirably arranged that it by no means appears so absurd to attempt to read it through consecutively. Such a process would be rendered more easy by the numerous wood engravings scattered through its pages, which, when the book is completed, will amount to upwards of three thousand. These illustrate the letterpress in the primary, not merely in the secondary, sense of the term, and often render the explanation of the word more intelligible to the student than whole pages of letterpress would do. Questions of etymology are dealt with succinctly but sufficiently, not launching forth into the wide field of discussion which they present to the professed philologoist, but furnishing ample material for the general student. Of course it is not possible to give the reader any idea of such a book by mere extracts. The old story of the pedant who brought a brick to show what his house was like, is specially applicable to such a work. But we may state that there is not, as far as our experience of the *Imperial Dictionary* goes, a single page which does not contain some useful information, well digested, and presented in a form which—for a dictionary—is attractive. We may indeed regret that the compiler should have perpetuated the curious blunder about "Abacot" which has been recently exposed in the columns of a contemporary; and the blunder is not rendered more pardonable by the attempted derivation of the word—which is really a corruption of "a bycocket"—from "Abacus," used in its architectural sense. We must also notice that he has omitted "Bycocket" itself in its proper place, though referring to it as another form when treating of the former word. A yet more serious omission under the same letter is that of "Boycotting," a term sufficiently established in the present day to merit a place in any English dictionary; while "*Clôture*," Mr. Gladstone's new introduction into the language, is also conspicuous by its absence. But these are only small maculæ, with which it would be hypercritical to be offended, and the general excellence of the work is such that we gladly add our tribute to the many which it has received both from critics of the original and of the present edition. For fulness of vocabulary and completeness of treatment it deserves the highest praise, and we look forward with no little eagerness to the appearance of the two other volumes, one of which is promised in July and the other in November of the current year. When they are published they will complete a book of which it is no exaggerated commendation to say that it ought to find a place in every household as one of the best companions and guides to the study of the English language which has ever been published.

* *The Imperial Dictionary.* Vols. I and II. By John Ogilvie. Edited by Charles Annandale.—London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow: Blackie and Son, 1882.

NEW NOVELS.

*More than Kin** is a pleasantly written story, in one volume, not containing much that is new either in the way of plot or character-painting, but giving evidence of considerable skill on the author's part in manipulating old materials. We can hardly suppose that in the present case "M.P." stands for Member of Parliament, though after Mr. Beresford Hope's unexpected *début* as a novelist, it is difficult to speak with any confidence on this point. Indeed, it may be that we are indebted for this agreeable little volume to some great luminary of the Lower House; but, in the absence of more exact data, we should be inclined to judge from internal evidence that the author rather belongs to the down-trodden and disfranchised sex of which the members are at present unable to write these cabalistic letters after their name; so that probably it is only the initials, not the senatorial title, of the author with which we meet upon the title-page. However this may be, it will not increase or diminish the reader's enjoyment of a very enjoyable story, which has all the freshness of a first venture, but at the same time exhibits the literary skill of a veteran writer. It assumes the shape of an autobiography, and the heroine is one out of the many daughters of a provincial doctor, who, like most of his tribe, is overworked and underpaid, so that he finds his large family somewhat difficult to provide for. His wife—a graceful though not strongly marked portrait—has fortunately a rich half-sister, who invites one of her nieces to stay with her at Millfield during the temporary absence of her companion. Annette, the heroine, is the niece selected somewhat against her own will; but Sophy, the eldest sister, has already all the cares of the family upon her; and Lucy, the next, is engaged, though without much prospect of the engagement ripening into matrimony. The heroine, however, soon discovers that Millfield is more agreeable than she expected; and the contrast between the comfort and luxury which she finds there and the pinching hugger-mugger life of her old home is not neutralised, as is so often the case in novels, by any lack of kindness and courtesy on the part of her rich aunt. On the contrary, both the aunt and her cousin, the hero who is destined to be "more than kin" receive her with much heartiness. She has been warned beforehand that the latter is as good as engaged to another cousin, Isabella Haynes; so she is more at ease with him than she would have been had she fancied him a free man, and also more blind to his obvious admiration for her. Indeed, so blind is she to it that she engages herself to some one else, Mr. Graham Dawes, though by no means feeling very warmly towards him; and George Warren, in consequence, really does engage himself to Isabella, who, in her turn, is devoted to an absent lieutenant, not appearing at all upon the scene. Such a mistake all round is, however, set right by a general breaking off of unsatisfactory, and a general contracting of satisfactory, engagements; the only person left out in the cold being Graham Dawes, who, however, takes things much more calmly than might have been expected from the ardent devotion with which he at first worships Annette. It will be seen, from this outline of the story, that there is very little in it, but that little is well worked out, and there are several bright and successful sketches of character. The doctor's family are capitally drawn with a few slight but effective touches, and Aunt Isabel herself is a very loveable personage. We trust that we shall soon meet "M. P." again; and, though that a novel shou. l be in one volume is an undoubted advantage in these days, we cannot doubt but that the author would be capable of filling with success a larger canvas than that which has been worked upon in *More than Kin*.

Dr. Lee, as a novelist, is hardly so successful as in that other department of fiction which he pursues under the title of ecclesiastical history. He is, indeed, too clever a man to be altogether dull in anything that he writes, whether it be "scandal about Queen Elizabeth," as in his former works, or the adventures of an imaginary hero, as in *Reginald Barentyne*.* But his novel is not so brilliant a specimen of his imaginative powers as his historical works. It is overladen with argumentative discussions in which, as is not unnatural, the advocates of Dr. Lee's side of any question gain easy victories over their opponents. If these were subtracted the residuum of the four hundred and odd pages of which the novel consists would be comparatively small, nor would there be much left in it which is very original. The hero himself and the great Cosmopolitan Club meeting in Bancroft's-gardens, Lambeth, to reform the world are a reflex, and a somewhat pale reflex, of George Brand and the society of which he was a member, as described in Mr. Black's admirable novel *Sunrise;* while the Bishop of Camford, and his experiences as a high ecclesiatic of the Palmeraton School, would hardly have been here recorded had not Dr. Proudie led the way. There is, however, more ill-nature about Dr. Lee's picture than there was about Mr. Trollope's, as is not unnatural when we remember how the former regards all English Bishops other than those belonging to the mysterious episcopate of the Corporate Reunion. But while the most important parts of the story turn upon Reginald Barentyne—who, unlike his prototype, repudiates the task of the assassin imposed upon him by his confederate—and Dr. Brampott, there are a good many amusing episodes and some amusing revelations of Dr. Lee himself. That latest development of schism, the Corporate Reunion scheme, is set forth after the manner of an article in the *Fortnightly* by Mr. Appleby, "the accomplished parson of Nutley-mere," and the burlesque account of the "Roaring Lion" is a lively though somewhat outrageous skit on the weekly press, as it presents itself to the reverend author's fervid imagination. The novel has already appeared as the *feuilleton* of the *Anchor*, a paper with which we have not the pleasure of being familiar, and it is doubtless to the exigencies of copy that we must attribute the lugging in by the head and shoulders of the story of an ingenious robbery. The original edition of it, with which many of our readers will doubtless be familiar, is, we think, better than Dr. Lee's version. The unhappy jeweller's assistant, in that edition, was taken, not to a mad-doctor, but to Mr. Truefitt's establishment, where he was forthwith shaved under the supervision of his fond sister, who had informed the artiste employed that she was about to bring her insane brother for that purpose, and took the opportunity of decamping with the jewels while the operation was being performed, despite the protests of the luckless victim. But this version of the story would not have enabled Dr. Lee to indulge in those indignant comments about the Lunacy Laws and mad-doctors which form part of the stock-in-trade of the modern novelist. There is, we should add, a love story between Reginald and the daughter of Lord Buncombe, a great Whig peer, who is amusingly sketched; but his daughter is a rather flaccid young lady, though she divides the heroine's palm with Mrs. Payter, whose bodily contortions in death are described after the fashion of the *Police News*. The "exposure of false principles, more especially of "liberty without limit," and of the demoralisation of the State by mob rule, and of the Church by a State Episcopate have been the author's objects in this novel with a purpose, and "it appeals to "persons instinctively Tory in their convictions "and sentiments." Such persons are to be found, if anywhere, among the readers of the *John Bull;* but yet we cannot think it altogether certain that our readers will be prepared unhesitatingly to accept Dr. Lee's guidance.

*Aurelia** is a one-volume story of very considerable cleverness. The first instinct of the reader will inevitable be to try and give the mythical Mixeter a local habitation and a name. The Cathedral and town are described with such seeming accuracy and minuteness that it is difficult to believe that they are not being described from personal observation; but we are inclined to think that Mr. Chester has united the characteristics of two or three Cathedral towns in the manner which the name itself faintly suggests. It is the same with the characters who play their parts in the little story. Now and then a transparent allusion to some public man—as, for instance, Earl Cairns—leads one to suspect that all the personages are portraits taken from life; but any attempt to label them will probably prove fallacious; and it will be better to accept them for what they most likely are—types existing clearly in the author's mind as a result of a very large and varied experience and observation. Of story there is almost none, the principal incident being the death of the old and induction of the new Bishop to the See of Mixeter. It might seem difficult for any author to do this without recalling the writer who has hitherto made this and kindred subjects his own especial province; but there is nothing in Mixeter which will recal even distantly the Episcopal adventures in Barchester. The writer is a strong partisan, and is animated now and then by more zeal than discretion. The style of allusion to the Queen, for instance, is not dictated by the best possible taste. It is a pity that all the Evangelicals should be fools or hypocrites, and it is unfortunately not consistent with human nature that High Church views should of themselves produce all the virtue of which mankind is capable; but, in spite of this and some other weaknesses, Mixeter is a capital sketch, well and vigorously written and interesting throughout. The poem introduced as a caricature would, we are inclined to think, be considered as a work of great genius by the school Mr. Chester is satirising.

* *More than Kin.* By M. P. In One Vol.—Edinburgh and London: W. Blackwood and Sons, 1882.

* *Reginald Barentyne; or, Liberty without Limit.* By Frederick George Lee.—London: W. H. Allen and Co., 1882.

* *Aurelia; or, The Close at Mixeter.* By Geoffrey J. Chester. In One Vol.—London: Marcus Ward and Co., 1882.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

Our correspondent, the Rev. J. E. Rudd, of Covenham St. Mary, writes:—

"MARCH MANY WEATHERS.

"Marz l'è fiö d'ona baltrocca,
Ora el piöv, ora el fiocca,
Ora el tira vent, ora el fa bèl temp;"

i.e., "March is nobody's child: he rains one day and snows another; has one day stormy and the next fine." The early days of March will be cold and wet; the weather in the second week will be changeable The 5th, 9th, 11th, and 18th are noteworthy, as day on which remarkable weather will prevail. The temperature will rise considerably after the 14th; gales of extraordinary violence will rage in the course of the week ending on the 26th, followed by a thunderstorm some time between the 26th and 31st.

"En Mars quand il tonne
Chacun s'en étonne."

The *Athenæum* announces that Mr. Thomas Hardy is writing a new novel, the first instalment of which will appear in the *Atlantic Monthly* for May.

Professor Blackie is recovering from his recent illness. Sir Alexander Grant has been taking his class during his enforced absence from his professorial duties.

The *Academy* states that in commemoration of the 500th anniversary of Wyclif's death, which will be in the year 1884, a Wyclif Society is in course of formation, to secure the publication of the great Reformer's Latin works, with English translations. Anyone willing to help in this work is asked to write to F. J. Furnivall, 3, St. George's-square, London, N.W. Professor Montagu Burrows, of Oxford, Mr. F. D. Matthew, the editor of the Early English Text Society's *Wyclif's English Works*, and other gentlemen have promised to join the committee. It is hoped that the society will finish its work in one or two periods of five years each.

Painted windows as memorials of departed worth have more than ordinary interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor (late O'Connor) has at all times pleasure in showing his various works for church and hall in progress, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates free. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition. — The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London.

Correspondence.

ANNIVERSARY OF MR. GREEN'S IMPRISONMENT.

To the Editor of the John Bull.

Sir,—Your strenuous and able advocacy of Mr. Green's cause, continued in your last issue, emboldens me to seek permission to place before that influential stratum of society which is influenced by your journal, a scheme which, though it may leave Mr. Green a captive still, must cheer him much in his captivity. On Sunday, the 19th of March, if authority is so ill-advised as to detain him there in protest of such a demonstration, Mr. Green, being then alive, will have been in prison for a year. *In prison for a year!* We can hardly believe it as one writes. Before I proceed, I would say I do not know Mr. Green. I have never seen him to my knowledge, nor had I heard of him till his iniquitous persecution. I am writing to you without the knowledge of any person save myself. And I am doing so because I cannot find that any other person has suggested the solace which I am about to propose for Mr. Green's unrighteous treatment. It would be strange, indeed, if on the anniversary of his incarceration no allusion were made to it in any pulpit. Strange, indeed, if hundreds, not alone in this country, but in America, did not try to evoke and easily succeed in winning, sympathy for the prisoner of two Lents. But sympathy may be tangible as well as heartfelt. It may reach the sufferer as it goes forth from the sympathetic. Let each incumbent or his deputy on the above-named Sunday, who thinks with Mr. Green in whole or in part, who agrees with him or the cause for which he is an undoubted martyr, invite his congregation to contribute to an offertory for Mr. Green, for his own use or for the use of his poor parish. Sympathy would then have spoken with a manifold greater power than all the declamation which has been vigorously and generously employed on behalf of the captive. You will not, I hope, Sir, think me impertinent if I say that the rank of life of those persons to which your journal finds access would make it easy for them to give Mr. Green a very touching proof of their sympathy. May I venture a step further, and say that those of them who find themselves at churches where Mr. Green is not remembered, might do well to bear him in mind by marking an offering for his special use? A national Easter offering would be a worthy testimonial to a man who is suffering bondage that others may have freedom. JAMES ANDREW BRUCE, B.D.

P.S.—If in time, will you permit me to add this testimony, from to-day's *Morning Post*, of Mr Green's work at Miles Platting? Nothing could plead more eloquently for a subsidy to continue this work. Verbal support has been rendered throughout the country, without much relief to the prisoner. I fear it will be found less popular to ask for financial help for the parochial works which he has at heart, and the receipt of which would surely cheer his prison hours. J. A. B.

March 2.

"The sisters from St. Margaret's Home, East Grinsted, who have been carrying on a charitable mission among the sick and poor in the parish of St. John, Miles Platting, of which the Rev. S. F. Green is rector, have just issued a report of their work. Referring to the spiritual condition of the parish as they found it, they say that the effect of Mr. Green's labours was of a very solid character. They were particularly struck with the quiet humble behaviour of the congregations. There was no excitement or empty ritual; but a hearty, thoroughly congregational service, in which all seemed glad to take part. The offertory, which consisted mainly of copper, sufficed to keep the church out of debt, with a little to spare for the aged and infirm, although the bulk of the population consists of factory hands, with a few small tradesmen. The sisters were received with the warmest welcome in all parts of the parish."

OFFICIAL YEAR-BOOK OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

To the Editor of the John Bull.

Sir,—May I ask you kindly to insert the following announcement of a provision which has now been officially made for publishing an annual record of the work of the Church in its various branches, both at home and abroad?

I am, faithfully yours,
FRED. BURNSIDE, Hon. Editor and Secretary.
The Parsonage, Hertingfordbury, Hertford,
Feb. 20.

A representative Committee of Churchmen has recently had under long and careful consideration, the desirability of publishing, year by year, a book presenting in popular and authorised form, complete and accurate, records and statistics of the several branches of the work of the Church both at home and abroad.

It is obvious that by such a provision as this, carefully made and carried out, very considerable assistance will be given in enabling those who are interested in the welfare and extension of the Church, to get a clearer view of what has been done, and is doing, in its several departments of Christian work.

In order that this book may play its part as it should do in Church organisation and defence, it is most strongly felt that it should be put into sympathy and direct communication with all official sources of information, and to secure this, as well as to provide that the publication should at all times bear the stamp of authority and justify its responsible position, it will be clear to all that it should be brought out under the direction of a representative Committee, and not entrusted to private enterprise.

Such a Committee has been formed, consisting of the Dean of Worcester, Prolocutor of the Convocation of Canterbury; the Dean of Manchester, Prolocutor of the Convocation of York; the Right Hon. J. G. Hubbard, the Right Hon. Earl Nelson, Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., together with several other influential laymen, the secretaries of the principal Church Societies and other clergy, the Ven. Archdeacon Emery, acting as Chairman of the General Committee, and the Ven. Archdeacon Hannah, as Chairman of the Sub-Committee. This undertaking has received the sanction of the Archbishops and Bishops, as well as of the Lower House of Convocation for the Province of Canterbury, and a like recognition will be immediately asked for from the Province of York.

Communication has been had with the Archdeacons, Bishops' Chaplains, and Diocesan Inspectors of Schools, and others holding office in the Church, who have all written expressing their warmest approval and their readiness in every way possible to assist the Committee in carrying out its work.

The book will be issued during the present year, and produced at such a price as to bring it within reach of general circulation; and it is matter of congratulation that the publication has been undertaken by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.

The Committee will thankfully accept any suggestions which may tend to accuracy and completeness.

ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE QUEEN.

On Thursday evening an attempt was made at Windsor to assassinate the Queen. Her Majesty set out from Buckingham Palace at about twenty-five minutes past four, escorted by a detachment of Life Guards and attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the suite. The train left Paddington at ten minutes to five, arriving at the Windsor Station punctually at twenty-five minutes past five. A large concourse of spectators had assembled on the platform, which had been carpeted and railed off on each side of the Royal waiting-room. The Queen remained in the carriage a few minutes after it had stopped, and then walked across the platform through the waiting-room to the Royal carriage waiting in the station yard. The carriage, which was drawn by a couple of greys, was closed, the weather being very cold. Her Majesty and the Princess Beatrice having taking their seats, the outrider started on his way to the Castle, and the crowd left the platform for the station yard, in order to see Her Majesty drive past. While cheers were being raised by the bystanders, a man wretchedly clad, who was standing at the gateway of the yard, deliberately raised a pistol and fired it at Her Majesty's carriage, which was about thirty yards distant. The shot did not take effect, and the carriage was at once driven off in the direction of the Castle. Chief Superintendent Hayes, of the Windsor Borough Police, seized the would-be assassin, the pistol at the same time being wrenched away by a townsman. The man was severely handled by the crowd, but with the assistance of Mr. Superintendent Blake and other officers of the Berks County Police, Mr. Hayes got him up the Station-hill, followed by the crowd, including a number of Eton boys. In High-street he was put into a cab and conveyed rapidly to the Windsor Police-station, an immense number of persons hooting him in good earnest. Immediately after the Queen arrived at the Castle Her Majesty despatched the Equerry, Sir John Carstairs M'Neill, to the railway station to inquire whether anyone was hurt, and was informed that no injury had been received by anyone. A message as to the occurrence was at once sent to the Prime Minister.

It appears that in the afternoon the prisoner, who gives the name of Roderick Maclean, was seen in the waiting-room by Mr. Smythe, the station-master, who asked him what he was doing there. He replied that he was waiting for a train, but Mr. Smythe ordered him to leave. As he kept the pistol—a new one—pointed at the carriage after the first discharge, it is supposed that he was preparing to fire a second chamber when he was seized. The report was very sharp. As Her Majesty drove by she showed no sign of alarm, and it is understood that she is not suffering from the shock. The ladies in waiting in the carriage behind the Queen were greatly alarmed, but were calmed on receiving the assurance that no harm had been done. One of the first persons to seize the prisoner was John Frost, foreman in the locomotive department at Slough, who always accompanies the Royal train.

Mr. Superintendent Hayes, in the presence of Inspector Fraser, of the A Division of Metropolitan Police, on duty at Windsor Castle, drew the charges from the revolver in the course of the evening, when it was discovered that two chambers were loaded with ball, and two with blank cartridges. From the nature of the report it was inferred that a blank cartridge had been fired. The officials of the Royal mews made an inspection of the carriage, but no bullet mark was observable. The incident caused no alteration in the proceedings at the Castle, the dinner being held as usual. Her Majesty is said to have exhibited no signs of agitation. The distance at which the man stood from the horses' heads of the Royal carriage was exactly thirty yards.

This dastardly attempt upon the life of the Sovereign naturally created the most intense indignation among the spectators. There was a general rush towards the man. Colonel Sir J. C. M'Neill, General Sir H. Ponsonby, and Viscount Bridport, who at the time were waiting to enter their carriage, ran to the vicinity of the Queen's equipage, when it was ascertained that Her Majesty had received no injury. Her Majesty and the Princess continued their progress to the Palace, followed by the ladies of the suite in the remainder of the carriages. In the meantime, the man, after having been belaboured over the head and shoulders with an umbrella by an Eton boy, was conveyed in a fly to the borough police-station, where, in the presence of Mr. H. L. Simpson, one of the justices, he was charged by Mr. Superintendent Hayes with shooting at Her Majesty the Queen with intent to do her grievous bodily harm. The prisoner, who gave the name of Roderick Maclean, and describes himself as a grocer's assistant, is of medium height and slim. He stated that he was suffering from hunger. He had walked from Portsmouth to Windsor, where he had been staying for a week. The Mayor of Windsor, Mr. Joseph Devereux, Mr. H. Darvill, Town Clerk, General Sir H. Ponsonby, Viscount Bridport, and Colonel Sir J. C. M'Neill were present in the charge-room while the prisoner was being searched. Later on he was examined in the cell by a doctor, who pronounced him sane.

Shortly after six o'clock the following telegram was delivered at Marlborough House:—

From the Queen, Windsor Castle, to the Prince of Wales, Marlborough House.—In case exaggerated report should reach you, I telegraph to say that as I drove from the station here a man shot at the carriage, but, fortunately, hit no one. He was instantly arrested. I am not the worse.

Immediately upon the receipt of this telegram by the Prince a message was returned to Windsor on behalf of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, expressive of their thankfulness upon the happy escape of the Queen. The news at once spread through the metropolis, and the callers at Marlborough House were exceedingly numerous. Messages were received from the members of the Cabinet and from many other illustrious personages. When the announcement of the attempt to assassinate the Queen reached the House of Commons the Prime Minister, Sir W. Harcourt, Lord Hartington, and Mr. Dodson held a hurried consultation for some time on the Treasury Bench. Subsequently Ministers left the House in order to ascertain the fullest particulars, and upon Mr. Gladstone returning during the delivery of Mr. Sexton's speech, a telegram was handed to the right hon. gentleman from Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Ponsonby, giving the information that Her Majesty had been fired at, but fortunately escaped unhurt. The Premier at once showed the message to his colleagues and the Speaker. A reply was at once sent to Windsor on behalf of the Government, expressing profound gratification at the failure of the attempt. Most of the members had in the meantime left the House in order to make inquiries, and there was great rejoicing when a telegram reached the Lord Great Chamberlain's office setting out that Her Majesty had reached the Castle in safety.

The Prince of Wales had made arrangements on Thursday night to visit the Court Theatre to witness the performance of *The Manager*; and he purposely carried out his intention in order to allay public anxiety. Being informed on his arrival by the manager that, in consequence of the report of the attempt on the Queen's life, some of the audience were leaving, his Royal Highness authorised him to state publicly that Her Majesty felt no ill-effects from what had occurred. The announcement was received with great cheering by a crowded audience, who greeted the Prince by rising in a body. No political significance is anywhere attached to the outrage.

Late on Thursday night the Empress of Austria, the Emperor of Germany, and the Czar telegraphed congratulations to the Queen upon her escape.

THE QUEEN'S DRAWING ROOM.

The Queen held a Drawing Room at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday afternoon. The Prince and Princess of Wales, attended by Lady Emily Kingscote, Miss Knollys, Lord Colville of Culross, K.T., the Marquis of Hamilton, Lieutenant-General Sir Dighton Probyn, C.B., V.C., the Hon. A. T. Fitzmaurice, the Hon. H. Tyrwhitt-Wilson, and Mr. F. Knollys, C.B., and escorted by a detachment of the 1st Life Guards, arrived at the garden entrance of the Palace from Marlborough House. Princess Christian, Princess Beatrice, the Prince of Waldeck and Pyrmont, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke of Teck were present at the Drawing Room.

The Queen, accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Prince of Waldeck and Pyrmont, and the members of the Royal Family, entered the Throne-room at a quarter past three o'clock. In attendance on Her Majesty were the Duchess of Bedford, Lady Waterpark, the Honourable Mrs. Ferguson of Pitfour, the Honourable Harriett Phippe, and the Honourable Evelyn Moore, Earl Sydney, the Earl of Kenmare, the Duke of Westminster, the Earl of Breadalbane, Lord Kensington, Lord Charles Bruce, the Earl of Cork, Lieutenant-General the Right Honourable Sir Henry Ponsonby, Viscount Torrington, Captain Edwards, General Viscount Bridport and Colonel Sir J. Carstairs M'Neill, Major-General Sir John Cowell, Mr. H. D. Erskine of Cardross, and Mr. F. W. Kerr and Mr. P. E. L. Cust.

The Queen wore a dress and train of black moire-antique, trimmed with ostrich feathers and jet, and a white tulle veil surmounted by a diadem of diamonds. Her Majesty also wore a necklace, brooch, and earrings of amethysts and diamonds, the Riband and Star of the Order of the Garter, the Orders of Victoria and Albert, the Crown of India, Louise of Prussia, St. Catherine of Russia, the Spanish and the Portuguese Orders, and the Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Family Order.

The Princess of Wales wore a dress of a new shade of green velvet, with broad revers of palest blue and gold brocade over a petticoat of fine Irish lace, fastened up with bunches of shamrock-leaves and forget-me-nots. Corsage with stomacher to correspond. Train of green velvet lined in pale blue and gold brocade. Headdress—a tiara of diamonds, feathers, and veil. Ornaments—pearls and diamonds. Orders—Victoria and Albert, the Crown of India, St. Catherine of Russia, and the Danish Family Order. Being St. David's Day the Princess also wore the leek.

Princess Christian wore a dress of white satin covered with Brussels lace, and trimmed with pearl trimmings and bunches of shaded leaves. Headdress—a tiara of turquoises and diamonds, veil and feathers. Ornaments — turquoise and diamonds. Orders—Victoria and Albert, the Crown of India, St. Catherine of Russia, the Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Family Order, the Prussian Order for Care of the Sick and Wounded, the Order of Louise of Prussia, and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem.

Princess Beatrice wore a train and corsage of pale mauve satin broché, trimmed with Valenciennes lace, and a petticoat of pale mauve satin duchesse. Headdress—feathers, veil, and diamond bees. Ornaments—pearls and diamonds. Orders—Riband and Star of St. Catherine of Russia, the Victoria and Albert, the Crown of India, St. Isabella of Portugal, and the Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Family Order.

The Duchess of Edinburgh wore a train and corsage of rich black velvet lined and trimmed with satin, and a petticoat of black satin and tulle richly trimmed with jet. Headdress, a diadem of diamonds, feathers, and veil. Ornaments, necklace, earrings, and brooch of sapphires and diamonds. Orders, Victoria and Albert, St. Catherine of Russia, the Crown of India, Louise of Prussia, and the Saxe-Coburg and Gotha Family Order.

A very handsome toilet was of vieil-or brocade, the skirt much puffed at the back; the front of the skirt was of satin, covered with a multiplicity of tiny frillings, and across it a Brussels lace shawl was very skilfully arranged, and looped with bouquets of velvet pansies. The train from the shoulder, where it was fastened with diamond buckles, was of dark slate-coloured watered silk, lined with poult de soie, and trimmed down one side with broad Brussels lace, arranged *en feston*, and with gatherings of satin; a bunch of vieil-or velvet pansies ornamented one corner of the train; headdress, tiara of diamonds, plume, lappets, and spray of pansies. Lady Cecilia Bingham wore a beautiful toilet of ruby; the skirt satin covered with tulle, and draped with superb Brussels lace; the train also ruby, with trimming of the same lace; tiara and necklace of diamonds. Countess of Dudley also wore ruby, the skirt draped with superb lace; the bodice and train of velvet, trimmed with the same lace; tiara of diamonds and sapphires; necklace to correspond, connected by loops of pearls; three rows of large pearls were also worn round the throat. Lady Hothfield wore a dress of myrtle-green satin, elaborately trimmed with tulle; bodice and train of green velvet, the train bordered with fur; handsome diamonds. Lady Hayter wore an entire costume of ruby, covered with superb Brussels lace, and very handsome diamond ornaments. Lady Walker wore a very handsome costume of pearl-grey satin, elaborately trimmed with fine old black Spanish blonde, and a profusion of white, lilac, and white chrysanthemums; train of extremely rich black broché, bordered wtih a band of pearly-grey satin, covered with Spanish blonde and bouquets of flowers to match the skirt. Mrs. Walter Farquhar had a very beautiful dress of coral pink satin, trimmed with lace and bordered with a thick wreath of coral pink velvet flowers; train of pale greyish-green brocade, lined with moss-green satin and trimmed with lace; tiara of diamond stars. Lady Isabella Schuster had a dress of richest ivory-satin, bordered with an enormous ruche; train *en Watteau* of very pale brocade; handsome diamond ornaments. Her daughter wore a remarkably pretty presentation toilet, trimmed with trails of white June lilies. Lady Frere wore a black toilet, the skirt embroidered in coloured jet. Her daughters wore dresses of Holbein green; bodices and trains of tiny brocaded flowers on pale blue, trimmed with trails and shaded roses, and plaitings of Holbein green satin. Lady Hulse had a dress of lilac tulle over satin, trimmed with branches of lilac, and a bodice, tunic, and train of richest black broché. Miss Helen Sandeman wore a very pretty dress of pale green, with blush flowers. Lady Dalton FitzGerald wore a white dress, trimmed with a profusion of violets; train of white and gold brocade; a large bouquet of violets in the hand. Lady Augustus Harvey wore a white satin dress and train trimmed with black and white lace, with large yellow roses at intervals; the front of the skirt nearly covered with Marshal Niel roses. Viscountess Mountgarrett wore a brown and gold brocade dress, with black train with gold. The Hon. K. Russell had a presentation dress of white tulle over satin, trimmed with bouquets of white lilac; corsage and train of white brocaded satin, handsomely trimmed with tulle and flowers. Miss Northcote wore a dress of pale blue satin merveilleux, trimmed with beautiful mousselin de soie embroidery, and bouquet of pink roses; train of sapphire-blue satin merveilleux, lined poult de soie, and worn from the shoulders. Lady Scott wore a train and corsage of cream moire, lined with cream satin, and handsomely trimmed with Honiton lace and plumes of cream ostrich tips; skirt of cream satin, draped with flounces of pearl-beaded net, and trimmed with satin, corsage trimmed with pearls; manteau de cour of cream and gold brocaded satin, trimmed with cream and gold cord and tassels, and lined with coral satin. Miss Scott had a presentation dress of cream Indian muslin, trimmed with cream Valenciennes, marabout feathers, and humming birds; train of cream Indian muslin, festooned over satin, mixed with a quantity of lace tulle and humming birds; manteau of cream-brocaded satin, trimmed with marabout, and lined with coral satin. Lady Camoys, who was presented on her marriage, wore a dress of pearl-white satin duchesse, with tablier of pearls and silvered beads, bordered with magnificent point *à l'aiguille*; train and corsage of silver brocatelle and satin, lined with satin, and trimmed with flounces of lace, held with large bows of satin ribbon; at one side a large bouquet of magnolias and ferns; bodice ornamented with same lace and plastron of pearls and silver beads, with bouquet to correspond. Lady Bective carried an enormous bouquet of daffodils. The Countess of Antrim wore a very rich toilette, the train and bodice of Sèvres blue Pompadour satin damask, lined with pink satin, edged round with a ruching of satin ribbon; skirt of pink duchesse satin with a tablier of exquisite *point à l'aiguille*, and bouquets of flowers combining all the soft shades of the damas arranged on one side. Lady M. Wood wore a train of gold and white brocade, lined blue, brocade bodice, trimmed with lace and lilies over a white satin petticoat. The Hon. Mrs. Hamer-Bass was attired in a very pretty pink toilet; train and bodice of satin damask, and skirt of tulle with an artistically arranged scarf of merveilleux, trimmed with a passementerie of beads of same colour. The Hon. Mrs. Napier, a bridal presentation dress, had a rich train of white duchesse satin bordered with lace, skirt of satin broché, with front of satin enveloped in lace, caught up with satin ribbon bows. Lady White's dress was cream lace on cream satin, with full paniers of sapphire-blue satin; pointed bodice, cream, with lace and sapphire folds; train from shoulders of sapphire velvet. Mrs. Gore Browne, presented by her mother-in-law, Lady Gore Browne, wore a train and bodice of cream colour brocade, cream satin petticoat, richly trimmed with old point de Flandre and apple blossoms; headdress, lappets, diamonds, and feathers. An unusual number of ladies carried bouquets, some of them of very large size, notably one composed entirely of primroses, and another of violets of different shades. One lady in mauve had a bouquet of daffodils with a profusion of the leaves; and a black dress showered over with wallflowers was completed by a bouquet of the same flowers. The majority of the trains were worn from the shoulder; but some were put on from the pouf in the back of the skirt below the waist. Of course, with so many presentations there was a great preponderance of white dresses. The prevailing colours were yellow, of every shade from primrose to vieil-or and ruby; but there was also a great deal of mauve, though scarcely any violet. Some of the brocades worn were extremely magnificent, and a good deal of silver and gold brocade was worn. The display of rich lace was quite above the average, as was the exhibition of diamonds.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. A. C. Alford, to Rectory of Aston Sandford, Bucks Patron, Mrs. E. Dover.
Rev. T. H. Austin, to Vicarage of Queenborough. Patron, Mr. E. Frewen.
Rev. C. W. Barclay, to Vicarage of Little Amwell.
Rev. R. Bullock, Rector of Witton, Lincoln, to Perpetual Curacy of Holy Trinity, Leeds. Patrons, the Trustees.
Rev. H. Clarke, to be Chaplain of St. Jean de Luz.
Rev. C. Clementson, Curate of the Parish Church, Sheffield, to Vicarage of Crookes, Sheffield.
Rev. C. Courtenay, Curate of St. Paul, Onslow-square, to Vicarage of Upper Armley, Leeds. Patron, Mr. W. H. Gott, Armley House, Leeds.
Rev. J. E. Dakers, Incumbent of Hawick, to Incumbency of St. Andrew's, Cumbrae. Patron, the Earl of Glasgow.
Rev. W. Davies, Curate of Pembrey, Carmarthen, to Perpetual Curacy of Llanfihangel, Abercowin, Carmarthen. Patron, the Bishop of St. David's.
Rev. W. Dyson, to Vicarage of Welwick. Patron, the Crown.
Rev. H. Fowler, to Chaplaincy of H.M. Prison, St. Albans.
Rev. E. Gregory, to Treasury of St. Paul's Cathedral.
Rev. R. D. Jones, Vicar of Pondsbridge, to Vicarage of Wisbech St. Mary. Patron, the Bishop of Ely.
Rev. E. N. Kane, Rector of Lower Sapey, to Rectory of Suckley, Worcestershire. Patron, the Crown.
Rev. W. P. Kerr, to Rectory of Hilfield and Curate of Sydling St. Nicholas.
Rev. F. V. Knox, to Chaplaincy of Bengal.
Rev. T. Lewis, Perpetual Curacy of Llangunnoch, Carmarthen, to Rectory of Llandilo Abercowin, Carmarthen. Patron, Mr. J. W. Gwynne Hughes.
Rev. W. S. Meade, to Rectory of Loddington. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.
Rev. J. F. Reece, to Rectory of Llanfwrog. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.
Rev. M. Reed, to Vicarage of Holy Trinity, Leicester. Patron, Mr. B. B. Reed.
Rev. J. Riley, Curate of Mirfield, to Perpetual Curacy of St. Paul, East Thorpe, Mirfield. Patron, the Vicar of Mirfield.
Rev. J. N. Smith, of Trinity College, Cambridge, to be Assistant-Curate of All Saints, Whitstable, with charge of St. Peter's Mission District.
Rev. E. Stansfield, Curate of Keighley, to be Minister of St. Peter, Keighley. Patron, the Rector of Keighley.
Rev. J. Stull, to Vicarage of Netheravon, Wilts. Patron, the Bishop of Salisbury.
Rev. W. S. Walford, to Rectory of Dallinghoe, Suffolk. On his own petition.
Rev. S. Webb, to be Prebendary of Portpool, in St. Paul's Cathedral.
Rev. A. Wentworth Wiggins, to Chaplaincy of Gotha.
Rev. A. Williams, to Rectory of Todenham. Patron, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol.
Rev. E. W. Wynter, to Rectory of Islip. Patron, Mrs. Stopford Sackville.
Rev. W. J. Mitchell Young, Curate of Banham, Norfolk, to Vicarage of Mevagissey. Patrons, the Trustees of Rev. H. A. Baumgartner.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF LONDON.—Revs A. B. Adams, to St. Paul, Old Ford; A. Briggs, to St. Margaret, Westminster; A. Crone, to St. Andrew and St. Philip, Harrow-road; N. Dalton, to Hounslow; G. S. de Saumarez, to Acton; R. A. England, to St. Marylebone; F. Hogan, to Emmanuel Church, Malda-hill; C. W. Houlston, to St. James's, Holloway; C. P. Marriott, to Grosvenor Chapel; A. M. Maynard, to St. John Wembley; and C. Moon, to Heston.
LICENCES TO CURACY BY THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.—Rev. C. G. Paget, to Wimborne Minster, Dorset.

OBITUARY.

Feb. 22, at Moorlands, Bitterne, Southampton, the Rev. Horace Robert Pechell, Chancellor of Brecon, late Rector of Bix, Henley-on-Thames, in the 90th year of his age.
Feb. 24, at Wembton, Bridgwater, the Rev. John Langworthy, for 40 years Vicar of Backwell, Somerset, in his 75th year.
Feb. 24, at the Rectory, Castle Caereinion, Montgomeryshire, the Rev. David Williams, M.A., Rector, and Canon (non-residentiary) of St. Asaph Cathedral, formerly Rector of Nannerch, Flintshire, for 27 years, and one of the Proctors in Convocation for the Clergy of the Diocese of St. Asaph, aged 70.
Feb. 25, in The Close, Salisbury, the Rev. Daniel James Eyre, M.A., Sub-Dean of the Cathedral, Sarum, aged 79.
Feb. 25, at 34, Park-village East, the Rev. W. S. Pratten, late of Hale, Cumberland, in his 62nd year.

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGIATE.

OXFORD.

The Rev. Henry Scott Holland, M.A., Senior Student, and Tutor in Theology of Christ Church, has been elected by that House Proctor for the coming year; and Mr. Arthur Lionel Smith, M.A., late Fellow of Trinity, Tutor and Lecturer of Balliol College, has been elected Proctor by Balliol College.
Mr. C. L. Shadwell, Fellow of Oriel College, has been appointed by the Hebdomadal Council a Governor of Derby School, in the room of Professor Green, who has resigned.
The following degrees were conferred on Thursday:—*B.D.*: R. Penny, Pembroke. *D.M.*: A. Mann, New. *M.A.*: W. Findlay, Merton; H. Sanders and H. Tylecote, New; A. Allinson, Lincoln; R. Beard, F. Bulley, J. Moore, and W. Vickers, Magdalen; W. Cowell, J. Field, and R. Herbert, Christ Church; W. Miller, St. John's; F. Bourdillon, Worcester. *B.A.*: T. Haddon, University; W. Strand, Balliol; Demming, Exeter; W. Hurrell, Oriel; F. Browne, New; E. Clarke, Lincoln; H. Haalam, Brasenose; J. Thompson, Christ Church; W. Ripley Trinity; T. Bacon, St. John's; L. Clarke, Wadham; J. Mullins, Pembroke; H. Haines, Keble; B. Burrows and H. Doyle, Hertford; R. Soanes and G. Williams, St Mary Hall.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

Monday, the 20th inst., has been appointed by Mr. Justice Chitty for the further hearing of the application for a prohibition in Coombe *v.* De la Bere (the Prestbury case).

Canon Liddon has sufficiently recovered from his recent indisposition to be able to resume his course of lectures as Professor of Exegesis of Holy Scripture.

In the House of Commons last Friday night, Mr. Reid obtained leave to bring in a Bill to amend the Public Worship Regulation Act (1874).

Canon Gregory has been collated by the Bishop of London to the Treasurership of St. Paul's, vacant by the death of the Rev. M. Gibbs; and the Rev. Benjamin Webb, vicar of St. Andrew's, Wells-street, to the Prebend of Portpool, formerly held by Dean Plumptre.

The preachers at St. Paul's Cathedral for March will be:—5th, morning, the Rev. W. J. Hall, Minor Canon; evening, the Bishop of Rochester; 12th, the Rev. Prebendary Humphry; 19th, the Rev. Prebendary Dyne; 26th, the Rev. Prebendary D. Wilson. The Rev. Canon Gregory will preach on the Sunday afternoons, being in residence for the month. The rest of the preachers for evening are not yet fixed.

The Rev. C. J. Evans, rector of Ovington, Norfolk, has paid one-half of the last quarter's poor-rate on behalf of his tithepayers, in lieu of returning them a percentage of the tithes for the past year.

The Rev. R. P. Pelly, vicar of St. John's, Stratford, states that it has been resolved to build a chancel and reseat that church as a monument to Sir Antonio Brady.

The death, in his seventy-first year, is announced of Canon David Williams, rector of Castle Caereinion, near Welshpool, and till lately Proctor for the diocese of St. Asaph. He was educated at Jesus College, where he took his bachelor's degree in 1833. He was ordained in 1835. He held the curacy of Mold for four years, and for twenty-seven years was rector of Nannerch, Flintshire. In 1858 he was appointed to an Honorary Canonry at St. Asaph's, and in 1872 was preferred to the rectory of Castle Caereinion. He was the translator into Welsh of several books published under the auspices of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and was likewise the author of a work on *Church Missions*.

The Rev. Canon Knox-Little has definitely consented to conduct a mission in Australia in May next, and he will be accompanied by the Rev. George Body, rector of Kirkby Misperton, if the state of his health will permit.

In the place of the Litany which has lately been said at the midday service in St. Paul's Cathedral during Lent, there is now used a service reprinted from Canon Liddon's *Midday Prayers for use in St. Paul's Cathedral*. It comes after the hymn that is sung at the conclusion of the address, and begins with the Lord's Prayer, and "O Lord open Thou our lips," &c. After the antiphon, "Out of the deep have I called unto Thee, O Lord: Lord hear my voice," some of the seven penitential psalms are said, and these are followed by the Gospel of the day. Then comes the last part of the Commination service, beginning with "Lord have mercy," to the end, the collect for the day and that for Ash Wednesday being inserted after the versicles and responses. Mr. Hutchings, of Clewer, has been preaching this week on Repentance.

The death of the Rev. John Vigden Povah, Minor Canon of St. Paul's, is announced in his 79th year. He graduated at Trinity College, Cambridge, taking his Bachelor's Degree as a Junior Optime in 1828, and proceeding M.A. in due course. In 1833 he was appointed to a minor canonry in St. Paul's Cathedral, and in the same year was nominated a priest-in-ordinary of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal, St. James's. Canon Povah had been rector of St. Anne and St. Agnes since 1840. In 1845 he was appointed Divinity Lecturer in St. Paul's Cathedral.

The preachers for the present month at Westminster Abbey are:—March 5, morning, the Rev. Prof. Momerie; evening, the Dean. 12th, morning, the Hon. and Rev. E. Carr Glyn, vicar of Kensington; evening, the Rev. Canon Holland. 19th, morning, the Hon. and Rev. E. V. R. Powys; evening, the Rev. Canon Farrar. 26th, morning, the Rev. H. Aldrich Cotton; evening, the Rev. Canon Fleming. The Rev. Canon Prothero will preach on Sunday afternoons.

The preachers appointed for the present month at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, are:—5th, morning, Bishop of Derry; evening, Rev. Canon Prothero. 12th, morning, Rev. Henry White; evening, Rev. C. J. Martyn, rector of Long Melford. 19th, morning, Rev. Henry White; evening, the Bishop of Bath and Wells. 26th, morning, the Rev. Henry White; evening, Rev. R. Lee, Head Master of Christ's Hospital.

The annual court of the Clergy Orphan Corporation was held on Monday, in the Board-room of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The Archbishop of Canterbury presided. The annual report showed that £6,720 had been raised during the year from voluntary sources, but there was a debt due to the treasurer of £421. The continuance of the agricultural depression was exercising an injurious influence on the funds, and there were nine boys and seven girls less than the proper number in the schools in consequence. The condition of the schools and the health of the children in them were stated to be very satisfactory, and extracts were read from the letters of clergymen who had had governesses from the institution, expressing in strong terms the benefits which their children had derived from their example and teaching. The Archbishop of Canterbury was re-elected president, Lord Cranbrook vice-president, instead of the late Lord Hatherley; the Rev. Dr. Currey, treasurer; and the Rev. J. Russell Stock, secretary. It was resolved that ten boys and six girls should be elected in May. The Archbishop, addressing the meeting, said that it afforded him great pleasure to occupy the office of president, the duties of which were mostly honorary; but if they were slight he endeavoured to perform them to the best of his power. He never visited Canterbury without going to the school or making inquiries respecting its progress. There never was a time when the charity more needed the support of every loyal Churchman than now. He was glad to see that the junior members of their sacred profession were helping themselves by forming an association from which they might derive benefit in seasons of sickness and distress. Such efforts on the part of the curates were in the right direction, but so small was the remuneration which the clergy received that it was impossible for them ever to be in a position in which the kindness of friends would not be wanted when serious illness or death invaded their families. The usual formal business having been completed, his Grace pronounced the Benediction, and the Court adjourned.

On the first Sunday in Lent the little church of Holy Cross, Great Greenford, was reopened, after being closed for much-needed restoration some six months, during which service was held in the school built and endowed in 1780 by the Rev. Edward Betham, Fellow of Eton and rector of Greenford, a considerable benefactor to the parish. Sermons were preached by his relation, the Rev. C. J. Betham, rector of Brettenham St. Mary, Suffolk, at Matins and Evensong, which services, with a celebration, were taken by the Rev. Arthur Beard, rector. Special Psalms and Lessons were in use during the day; and the Offertories, towards the expense of restoration, amounted to about £11. The dilapidated condition of the nave required its entire renewal, which has been well accomplished at a cost of about £1,000, under the direction of Mr. Cross. The large south-east window of the nave has been restored in memory of his father by Mr. Millwood. The church is prettily situated, and a well-designed porch adds much to its picturesqueness.

The Rev. E. R. Benyon, of Culford, Suffolk, has allowed a concession, in some cases amounting to 25 per cent., on the rents of his tenants for the past quarter.

The Rev. H. O'Rorke, rector of Feltwell, Norfolk, has returned to his tithepayers 10 per cent. of the tithes for the past year.

An effort is being made to provide a new church for Matlock Bank. Mr. F. C. Arkwright, J.P., presided at a meeting and concert in aid of the movement, at which it was stated that £2,000 had been promised towards the building fund, and £1,100 towards the endowment. A portion of the edifice will be first erected, the works for which are already in progress.

The two stained glass windows which have been erected in the church of the Holy Trinity, Salford, in memory of the two Humphrey Booths, who were liberal benefactors in the district in the seventeenth century, were formally unveiled on Sunday. The Bishop of Manchester preached on the occasion. His Lordship said that the land, valued at £20 a year, left by Humphrey Booth for the benefit of the poor of Salford now realised an income of between £4,000 and £5,000 per annum.

The Bishop of Manchester having declined to license a curate for the parish of St. John the Baptist, Hulme, the following resolutions were unanimously carried at a meeting of the parishioners:—

(1). That this meeting of the Church Society, parishioners and congregation of St. John the Baptist, Hulme, desire to record their gratitude to the rector for not having made any change in the services to which they have been accustomed so many years, and beg to express their sincere regret at the additional work entailed upon him by the difficulty in obtaining clerical help under existing circumstances.

(2) That this meeting, feeling assured that the parochial work cannot be efficiently maintained unless the rector has regular clerical assistance, appoints a deputation to wait upon the Bishop of Manchester, and respectfully ask him to reconsider his decision not to license a curate to the parish.

The churchwardens, sidesmen, and five other gentlemen were appointed as a deputation. The rector, the Rev. Dr. Marshall, said the difficulty had arisen in consequence of his not feeling justified in reducing the ritual of the services, in accordance with the Bishop of Manchester's recent admonition. It was a matter of right or wrong. There had been no recent innovations, and the ritual in use at St. John's had been in use for some years, and the congregation were accustomed to it, understood it, and loved it—not, however, for its own sake, but for what it signified. Practically it was the result of the work in which he had been engaged ever since he had been in holy orders. The virtual effect of yielding to the Bishop's admonition would be recognition of the right of the civil power to encroach on spiritual matters, because it was the law of the Privy Council, not of the Church, which was sought to be imposed upon them.

It has been decided by the Welsh Bishops not to proceed for the present with the revision of the Welsh New Testament. The committee appointed in May last, consisting of three representatives from each of the four Welsh dioceses, met at Shrewsbury in the following month to consider the subject, and were all but unanimously in favour of the revision being proceeded with. The committee subsequently met their Lordships and reported to them their reasons for recommending the revision, which reasons have, however, failed to influence the Bishops in proceeding with the work.

In addition to special Wednesday evening services at Ely Cathedral during Lent, with Litany, hymns, and anthems by Gounod, there are to be services for men only and for women only during March, and on March 28 a quiet devotional day is appointed for the clergy of the diocese, at which addresses will be given by the Bishop of Bedford. During the last two years such additional services have been carried on with considerable success, and seem to point out fresh means of usefulness for the Cathedrals, not only in the metropolis and larger cities, but in less populous places.

A new church, to be called St. Paul's, is about to be erected at Forest-hill, the present temporary church (one of the largest of its kind in the metropolis) being too small for the accommodation of the congregation. The new church is to be constructed to accommodate 1,000 persons, the estimated cost of the building being £7,000, exclusive of a tower and spire, which it is proposed to erect later on. The contract for the building has been signed, and the work is to be completed within twelve months.

The Bishop of Rochester, who was supported by Canon Hussey, the Rev. H. H. Montgomery, the vicar of the church, and other members of the parochial clergy, held a special public service at eight o'clock on Wednesday evening, in St. Mark's Church, Kennington-park, in the presence of a large congregation, to initiate the lay readers and lay preachers of the diocese in their missionary work for the poor. A large number of laymen received from the Bishop licences to carry on their work, and to preach and read as occasion may require, under the direction of their ministers.

The monument which Her Majesty commissioned Mr. R. C. Belt to prepare for the perpetuation of the memory of Lord Beaconsfield has just been completed and erected in Hughenden Church. It is placed immediately above the seat habitually occupied by the late Prime Minister. The spot was, it is stated, selected by Her Majesty; and the monument is a touching record of that friendship which can so rarely exist between Sovereign and subject. The centre of the memorial is occupied by a profile portrait carved in low relief in statuary marble, placed within a quartrefoil cartouch, which is flanked by buttresses and crowned by a carved and crested canopy in which figures an heraldic hatchment of the late Earl's arms and supporters. Beneath this is a tablet bearing the following dedication penned by the Queen herself:—

To
the dear and honoured Memory
of Benjamin Earl of Beaconsfield.
This memorial is placed by
his grateful and affectionate
Sovereign and friend
Victoria R.I.
"Kings love him that
speaketh right."
Proverbs xvi. 13.

February 27, 1882.

The whole of the architectural surroundings are in strict accord with the architecture of the church itself, and are wrought in Sicilian marble.

A meeting of the council of Rochester Diocesan Society was held on Monday at the office, 26, Great George-street, the Bishop in the chair. The meeting was attended by the Archdeacons of the diocese and a large number of clergy and laity. Grants to the amount of £620 were made to the general objects of the Society. All applications for living agencies were necessarily deferred to the next meeting in April, owing to the small amount of funds at the Society's disposal.

The death of the Rev. Charles Walters is a great loss to the Philanthropic Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Offenders, to whose institution at Redhill he was a most energetic and judicious chaplain. At the annual harvest home and festival at the Reformatory, which if not exactly instituted by Mr. Walters, owed much of its invariable success to his counsel and direction, his presence will be especially missed by the numerous friends of the institution, who regard the Redhill Harvest Home as a red-letter day in their calendar. Mr. Walters was an intelligent and enthusiastic advocate of the reformatory system, and investigated the methods adopted on the Continent, the results of which he published in an interesting pamphlet. His record of ten years' experience at Redhill bore high testimony to the value of the system pursued at that institution. It is not unworthy to note that Mr. Walters's college career was one of high distinction.

On Sunday afternoon the Archbishop of Canterbury preached to a crowded congregation at the church of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields in aid of the St. Martin's League, an organisation originated by the Rev. A. H. Stanton for the religious, intellectual, and social advancement of *employés* connected with the Post Office. There are houses secured for the accommodation of the league in the E., E.C., and S.E. postal districts, and a special effort is now being made to provide funds for acquiring a seaside house at St. Leonard's, to which the *employés* may resort during their holidays.

A meeting of the members of the Curates' Alliance was held last week in the vestry-room at Clerkenwell parish church, the Rev. R. H. Hadden, president, occupying the chair. The chairman, alluding to the rejection of the votes of certain curates, including himself, at the recent election of a proctor to Convocation, which took place at Sion College, stated that it was still the intention of the curates in the Archdeaconries of London and Middlesex to assert their right to vote in the election of proctors in Convocation. With respect to the Clergy Friendly Society, he mentioned that the organisation had now passed out of the hands of the Alliance and was taking root for itself. The Archbishop of Canterbury had consented to become its president. The Council of the Alliance, in a report on Church patronage, suggested that no one should be eligible for preferment under five years' standing from priest's orders, and who had been engaged during that period in active ministerial work. The report strongly objected to a system of purchase, whereby the advowsons, or perpetual right of presentation to preferment and next presentations of 7,900 livings, more than one-half of the whole number, were saleable to the highest bidder, either by public auction or private contract.

The Rev. Herbert Bree, Rector of Brampton, in the diocese of Ely, has been appointed to the Bishopric of Barbadoes, vacant by the resignation of Bishop Mitchinson.

There will be Morning Prayer (shortened form) in the choir in Westminster Abbey at 8.30 a.m. daily for the future. On Saints' Days during the School Term the services will be at 7.45. The entrances are by Poets' Corner, west door, and west cloister door.

It is proposed to build a new church on the West Cliff, Whitby. The site has been given by Sir George Elliot, Bart. The sum actually subscribed and promised is £4,700, in addition to the site, which is a very valuable one. The probable cost of the new church will be between £10,000 and £15,000.

The Rev. E. F. N. Smith, assistant-curate of St. John the Evangelist, Red Lion-square, Holborn, and Chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield, has accepted the charge of the Marlborough College Mission at Tottenham. Mr. Smith, who is an old Marlburian, served with Bishop Maclagan at Newington and Kensington.

A Bill dealing with the City churches will shortly be introduced into the House of Lords by the Bishop of London. It is believed that it will propose to deal with the subject as a whole, a Commission being appointed to consider the case of each church on its merits, but not without reference to the spiritual needs of the neighbouring district. It is probable that the Bill will make rapid progress in the House of Lords, and then be referred to a Select Committee in the Lower House.—*National Church.*

A correspondent of the *Church Times* complains that the Commination service was not read in Brasenose College Chapel, Oxford, on Ash Wednesday, and that the Athanasian Creed was omitted on St. Matthias' Day. The new Vice-Principal, while insisting upon attendance at chapel, has also broken through the traditional custom of bowing to the altar, and does not face eastward at the saying of the Nicene Creed. "An Oriel Undergraduate" also writes to the effect that many Catholic-minded undergraduates are deeply distressed at the existing state of things at Oriel College Chapel, more especially when they consider that this college was the birthplace of the Oxford movement. He states that the services as now conducted in the hideous structure used as a chapel are slovenly, irreverent, and unedifying. The absolution is scarcely ever given at the daily services, though a priest is generally present; Matins and Evensong are gabbled through at a wild pace; and there are but three celebrations during the whole term. At these latter services the sacred vessels are always taken into the chapel by one of the college servants and placed on the "holy table," and, scandalous to say, no sooner is the divine office concluded when the celebrant hurries out, leaving the said vessels on the altar, without performing the necessary ablutions. Our correspondent says that he has seen the vessels removed by the same college servant who brought them in, in the most hurried and careless manner, when there certainly must have been some of the consecrated species in the chalice.

The first meeting for the year of the Central Council of Diocesan Conferences is fixed for March 7th, at eleven o'clock, in the National Society's Rooms, under the chairmanship of the Right Hon. H. Cecil Raikes, M.P. The subjects to be discussed by the lay and clerical representatives of the Conferences, including several M.P.'s on both sides of the House, and members of both Convocations, will be: Patronage, Tithes, the Education Code, &c. By a rule of the Constitution, as agreed upon last year, members of either House of Parliament, or of the Convocations, and members of Conferences, though not representatives, may be present, and, by request, speak, though not vote. The following is the complete agenda paper :—

Prayer. Report of last year's proceedings. Proposed alterations in constitution and by-laws. Finance and balance-sheet. Nomination of president, secretaries, and treasurer. Nomination of the executive committee.

The secretary to report upon the following subjects :—

1. Convocation report of 1882 on Diocesan Conferences.
2. The Official Year Book of the Church of England in connection with S.P.C.K. and Convocation.
3. Summary of Measures affecting the Church before Parliament and Convocation, and reports of commissions.
4. Diocesan correspondents and Parliamentary committee.

Subjects for Discussion and Suggested Resolutions.

A. Church Patronage.

Resolution.—That in view of the Report of the Royal Commission of 1879, and of the decisions of Diocesan Conferences, the most strenuous efforts should be made to obtain the passing of an Act without delay, which should enforce the principle that "Patronage partakes of the nature of a trust to be exercised for the spiritual benefit of the parishioners," and should contain clauses (1) for the abolition of the sale of next presentations; (2) for the due regulation and registration of the sale of advowsons; (3) for the conversion of all donatives into presentative benefices; (4) for giving increased powers to the Bishop to refuse Institution in certain cases and under express limitations and conditions.

B. Tithes.—1. *Extraordinary Tithes.*

Resolution.—That it is expedient that Extraordinary Tithe Rentcharge be abolished by merger into ordinary T.R.C. or by redemption on equitable terms.

2. *Ordinary Tithes.*

Resolution. (*a.*) That the landowners should in all cases pay the Tithe Rent-charge.

(*b.*) That it is desirable that due inquiry be made by competent authority into any alleged hardships or irregularities connected with the present system of averages, with a view to rearrangement if deemed equitable and desirable.

C. Education Code.

Resolution.—Subjects to be suggested as desirable for early discussion in Diocesan Conferences :—*a.* Church Courts and Report of Royal Commission thereon. *β.* Church Legislation—Draft Bill as approved by both Convocations and commonly known as the Bishop of London's Bill. *γ.* Church Boards and Church Councils. *δ.* Cathedral Commission Report. Appointment of Committees. Any other business, date of next meeting, &c.

LAW PROCEEDINGS.

The Grand Jury at the Central Criminal Court before being discharged made an important presentment, in which they referred to the frequency of violent and brutal outrages committed by bands of ruffians in the public streets. They were induced, they said, to draw particular attention to this, owing to the large number of cases of this kind which had come before them at these sessions. One of these cases was a most brutal outrage upon a young woman, committed by roughs in the public highway, in the presence of the father, and despite his resistance to save his daughter. The grand jury expressed their opinion that a great deal of this brutality was due to the lenient sentences passed by the magistrates upon offenders of this description. They suggested that more severe sentences should be passed upon such offenders; and they also added that they thought that in all cases in which serious bodily injury was inflicted by ruffians of this class the punishment of flogging should be added to any sentence of imprisonment that was passed.

THE COURT.

On Friday Her Majesty's dinner party included Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, and Princess Helen of Waldeck, the Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe, Baroness Löbell, the Hon. Horatia Stopford, the Earl of Fife, Viscount Torrington, Lord Rowton, and the Rev. Canon Duckworth.

On Saturday the Earl of Fife, K.T., Lord Rowton, C.B., and Canon Duckworth, who had arrived the previous day, left the Castle.

On Sunday morning Princess Beatrice, Prince Leopold, and Princess Helen of Waldeck attended Divine service in the private chapel. The Rev. T. Teignmouth Shore, M.A., preached. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley dined with the Queen and the Royal Family.

On Friday H.S.H. the Prince of Waldeck and Pyrmont visited the Prince and Princess of Wales, The Prince of Wales hunted with the Queen's hounds, and in the evening the Prince and Princess of Wales honoured the Strand Theatre with their presence, to witness the performance of *Manola*.

On Saturday the Prince of Wales visited the Prince of Waldeck and Pyrmont at Buckingham Palace. The Prince and Princess of Wales and the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud witnessed the performance of the pantomime of *Robinson Crusoe* at Drury-lane Theatre in the evening.

On Sunday the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud attended Divine service.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales have issued invitations for a dance next Friday, which is the nineteenth anniversary of their wedding day.

The Queen will, according to the most recent arrangements, leave Windsor Castle on Monday week, the 13th inst., for Mentone. The Queen, who will be accompanied by Princess Beatrice, and attended by General Sir H. F. Ponsonby, General Viscount Bridport, Lady Churchill, the Hon. Victoria Baillie, and Dr. Reid, will drive to the Windsor Station of the Great Western Railway, and proceed by special train over that line to Basingstoke, and thence by the South Western system to Portsmouth, the Royal party upon their arrival in the dockyard embarking at once on board the steam yacht *Victoria and Albert* (Captain Thomson). Her Majesty, escorted by a small flotilla, will cross the Channel to Cherbourg Harbour, which will be reached in the evening, and will dine and sleep in the yacht. The Royal travellers will land at Cherbourg on Tuesday morning, the 14th inst., Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice leaving the French coast about ten o'clock, and travelling in the Queen's saloon by special train over the Western Railway to Paris, where they will arrive at half-past six o'clock the same evening. The Queen will proceed immediately over the Ceinture Railway to the Paris and Mediterranean line, and continue her route, *viâ* Lyons, Marseilles, Cannes, and Nice, to Mentone, which will be reached about half-past four o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, the 15th inst., after a run of some thirty hours from Cherbourg.

We are informed that the arrangements for the Queen's sojourn at Mentone are now practically completed. During Her Majesty's stay at Mentone she will inhabit the châlet belonging to Mr. Henfrey. This châlet is situate in the eastern bay, on the slope of the mountain, about 200 yards from the shore, and about 100ft. above the sea level. It was built two years ago by Mr. Charles Henfrey, the eminent engineer (now retired), as a winter residence for himself and his family. Mr. Henfrey has already had the honour of receiving Her Majesty, two years ago, in his palatial residence on the shores of Lake Maggiore, at Baveno. The choice of this locality in Mentone by Mr. Henfrey as his own residence is in itself a proof that no better could be found on the coast of the Mediterranean as regards mildness of winter climate, protection from winds, and from all unfavourable influences. Having carried out many important engineering works in different regions of the Mediterranean and in many parts of the world, as a partner in the firm of Messrs. Brassey, Mr. Henfrey has a practical knowledge of the climates of the Mediterranean and of the East. It may be also accepted as a fact that every possible hygienic precaution has been adopted and carried out by Mr. Henfrey in the erection of this dwelling. The house, built in the Swiss style, is isolated, and commands lovely mountain and sea views. The Royal train will be able to deposit Her Majesty at the foot of the gardens which surround the villa, without its being necessary to pass through the town. The result of inquiries as to the sanitary state of Mentone, made with reference to Her Majesty's intended visit, is most satisfactory. The season has been very genial and exceptionally healthy from the commencement until the present time. Not only has there been no epidemic of zymotic disease, but there has been an absence of the isolated cases of such diseases which occur in all large communities in winter at Mentone as elsewhere.—*British Medical Journal.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

The deaths have been announced of Mr. Perry Watlington, formerly M.P. for South Essex, aged 60, and of Mr. G. Leeman, formerly M.P. for York.

It has been decided that the annual rowing match between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge shall come off on Saturday, April 1.

The Lancashire cotton manufacturers have resolved to suspend working for a fortnight between the present time and April 14.

On Wednesday morning a retired tailor, named Everton, was run over and killed by a Great Western Railway train at the Droitwich Railway Station.

The Brighton Town Council have decided to purchase Preston Park from Mr. Benett-Stanford, at a cost of £50,000, for the purpose of converting it into a public recreation ground.

The steamer *Livadia*, with coals for Alexandria, was wrecked on Tuesday off Yarmouth, and twenty-three of the crew were drowned, one man only being saved.

Two persons have been arrested upon suspicion of having been concerned in the abstraction of the body of the late Earl of Crawford from the mausoleum of Echt.

The capital sentence passed upon Henry Stebbing for the murder of a little girl at Soham has been respited.

Lord Houghton was seized with sudden illness at Athens, where he now remains, suffering from an attack of partial paralysis.

The *Bacchante* frigate, on board which the Prince of Wales's sons are serving, arrived at Suez on Tuesday.

About 15,000 persons assembled on Sunday week at Kingloon, Fifeshire, to witness the launch of a vessel which could not be got off the stocks on the previous day owing to stormy weather. Reference to the launch was on Sunday made from some of the local pulpits, one clergyman lamenting that so many thousands of professing Christians should have participated in this flagrant act of Sabbath desecration. The occurrence has caused much discussion.

A very serious carriage accident happened to Sir Richard Amphlett, near Christchurch, the other day. Sir Richard, who, it will be remembered, resigned his post in the Appeal Court some years ago, owing to the effects of a paralytic stroke, was driving with his wife, whom he married in 1880, and his niece. The coachman contrived to drive the carriage against a wall, and broke the pole; the horses took fright, reared, and kicked about the ex-judge's head, whose only alarm appeared to be for his cigar, which was in danger of being extinguished. His butler, who was on the box, was suddenly deposited on her ladyship's knee, while Miss Amphlett bravely jumped out of the carriage, and held one of the horses with one arm, which got dislocated; thereupon she continued to hold it with the other until it was still. Sir Richard, two days afterwards, suffered from a severe nervous attack, but has now quite recovered his ordinary state of health.

Speculation and Investment in Stocks and Shares at a Minimum Risk, is the title of a neatly-bound little work just issued by Messrs. Gutteridge and Co., Stockbrokers, 7, Drapers'-gardens, Throgmorton-street, E.C. It informs those who are desirous of speculating of an easy and apparently safe system of investing money; and, from the examples given in this book, one can readily see that the systems recommended by this firm are worthy of public confidence.

A shocking tale is related from Five Acres, near Coleford, where an old woman has for many years lived in apparent poverty and chiefly by mendicity. She became paralysed a few days ago and died. In her bed was found a canister containing £90 in cash. In another room was found a girl about 17 years of age in a semi-nude state. She had been shut in this room for three years, and had never left it during that period. The girl has become quite an imbecile, and has been removed to Monmouth union. Even the neighbours had no idea of the girl's existence hitherto.

The following extraordinary advertisement appeared in the "Agony Column" of the *Times* of Wednesday :—

The person who, contrary to common sense and propriety, is in the habit of sending anonymously valuable presents, with cards and valentines, to a very young lady in the North of England, is requested to discontinue the practice; and is informed that the presents hitherto sent, which have never been accepted or used by the young lady, have been forwarded, after a vain attempt to trace them to the sender, for the benefit of a charitable institution.

During the trying seasons of agricultural depression the forbearance and patience of the British farmer have been well exercised. The present condition of agriculture in our midst is still very deplorable, however, and in spite of the repeated promises of a paternal Government, many of our unfortunate farmers are hard driven to raise sufficient to meet their tithes and taxes, much less their rents. Occasional concessions from the landlords in remissions of rents have been fully appreciated by the tenants; but such assistance, though comparatively large, can but partly recoup the losses of several unsuccessful harvests, and many good years must come to the British farmer before he can hope to regain the prosperous position that he previously held. Various speakers, out of Parliament, when addressing agricultural meetings, have laid stress on the fact that all that is wanted now to turn the tide of prosperity towards the farmer is a good season, and, if Providence would only grant this, things would gradually come round again. The British farmer shakes his head dolefully, however, muttering that since the Yankees took the weather arrangements in hand, they have had it pretty much their own way, and Providence is not in it with them. Be this as it may, the Americans have certainly outdistanced our poor farmers in regard to supplies, and it only needs a little further stretch from the Australian and other colonies to completely place us at their mercy for our food, clothing, and drink. In replying to Sir H. Maxwell in the House of Commons on the 20th inst., Mr. Trevelyan said that American salt beef has been used in the navy since 1870; that it is as good as or better than that cured at Deptford victualling-yard, and costs on an average 27 per cent. less; consequently the Deptford curing was given up, and £5,000 per annum saved to the Government after paying 25 per cent. over the ordinary price of American meat, in order to secure the very best pieces. But if the whole question turned upon the point of economy, our "paternal Government" have yet another lesson to learn in catering; seeing that Sir James M'Culloch, the chairman of the leading company in Melbourne, has recently stated that Australian meat delivered in London, and realising more than 4½d. per lb., would return a profit on each shipment. It would be interesting to the general public, as well as the British farmer, to know how the Americans gained this footing; whether the contract was in the first place an open one; whether it was made continuous; and if not, whether it ought not to be publicly advertised at stated periods, to give our own producers the chances of competing for these supplies? Sir H. Maxwell deserves the thanks of all those interested in the present deplorable condition of our native farmers for eliciting the facts we have quoted, but which we are afraid will rather add to than diminish the anxieties of English beef-growers, who are evidently left out in the cold after their long and trying struggles through a succession of adverse seasons. Signs of exhausted patience and murmurs of discontent are gathering throughout the British farming districts; and those who have been deluded into long expectancy of a helping hand from Government are seriously asking themselves the question, "Who is to blame?"—*Land and Water.*

An explosion occurred on Monday in the Blaina Colliery, Monmouthshire, and five men were killed.

An extraordinary scene was witnessed on Tuesday at a Salvation Army demonstration at Camborne. "Captain" Williams was recently commissioned by "General" Booth to conduct a campaign, "Lieutenant" Medlyn, a lady, being ordered to assist him. The lady appeared to have become the more popular preacher, and her services were dispensed with by her superior officer. During one of the meetings on Tuesday Miss Medlyn was observed seated quietly among the congregation, and loud calls were made for her to mount the rostrum. The captain objecting, the wildest uproar prevailed, in the course of which the worshippers almost bodily carried the lady lieutenant to the rostrum, while the captain was mobbed and threatened, amid cries of "Kick the blackguard out" and "Give him Camborne"—a popular allusion to the local style of wreaking vengeance. The scene that ensued was of a most disgraceful character. The police were called in, but were powerless, and the lady's protest that she had been discharged from the service from motives of jealousy intensified the popular indignation against the captain. He avoided further molestation by clandestinely quitting the "barracks," leaving his fair opponent in possession.

The authorities at Aberdeen have confirmed the report already published that important revelations have been made in connection with the outrage at Dunecht, and that two men are now in custody, charged with complicity in the removal of the body of the Earl of Crawford, which it is now believed will be found in the locality from which it was stolen. Although to outward seeming the inquiries and negotiations have been given up for the past two months, this has not been so in reality, and several times hopes have been raised that the proper clue had been discovered. Nothing definite, however, was ascertained until some time after the advertisements appeared offering a reward for information, leading to the arrest of the guilty parties. It is known that after this advertisement was withdrawn a letter was received by Mr. Allsop, the family solicitor, from parties professing to have a knowledge of all the facts, and offering, on condition that a ransom of £6,000 were given, to restore the remains. This letter was couched in somewhat insolent terms, and it contained a threat that if the offer were not accepted within a given time, or if any attempt were made to get the body upon easier terms, the ransom would be increased to £20,000, and if this were refused the body would be destroyed. It is understood that the letter formed the groundwork of the investigations which have led up to the arrests now made, and that the handwriting has been identified with that of certain of the persons now in custody or under police surveillance. Whether any reply was sent to the letter has not transpired, but at all events Mr. Allsop decided to put the law into force. One of the persons upon whom suspicion fell was a man named Thomas Kirkwood, an old and trusted servant of the family. Kirkwood, who is a skilled mechanic, was entrusted by the present Earl with important work connected with the observatory at Dunecht. When the Earl (then Lord Lindsay) went in charge of the British expedition to the Mauritius in December, 1874, to observe and report on the transit of Venus, Kirkwood accompanied him, and so well did he acquit himself on that occasion that on their return his master erected for him a handsome cottage on the estate, where he has resided ever since, and attended to his duties at the observatory. In the search for the body in the policies of Dunecht Kirkwood took an active part. He received from the Earl last week a letter telling him that he was required in London in connection with some work at the laboratory. This was part of the plan to put him off his guard, and to enable certain inquiries to be made in his absence. So convinced were the police of Kirkwood's complicity that it was at first decided to arrest him in London, and orders to that effect were sent to Scotland-yard, but some difficulty in regard to jurisdiction presented itself, and it was deemed the safest course to arrest him in Aberdeen. Accordingly a message was sent summoning him to return to Aberdeen, and Superintendent Swanson travelled in the same train to see that Kirkwood complied with the instructions. When the train arrived in Aberdeen on Saturday two officers of police took Kirkwood into custody, and he was removed to the county police-station. In the meantime, Lord Crawford, who was cognisant of all the steps taken, came on from London by another train, and on his arrival drove to the office of the Procurator Fiscal, who informed him that another person had been taken into custody on the previous night. The name of this man is John Philip, a friend of Kirkwood. Philip, at the time the outrage is supposed to have been committed, was a drill-instructor to the Volunteers on the Dunecht estate, but some weeks ago he removed to Aberdeen. He was at Echt when apprehended. It still remains doubtful whether the principal persons implicated have been arrested, it being the impression that the men now in custody, if concerned in the outrage at all, acted under the directions of others who planned the crime; indeed, there is some reason to believe that the sudden arrests have been resorted to in order to force the hands of guilty parties and induce some of them to turn Queen's evidence. Kirkwood and Philip were examined before the Sheriff on Saturday afternoon. Their statements were heard separately, and the examinations were of a most searching character. The proceedings, of course, were private, but the nature of the statements was such as to warrant the committal of the prisoners for further examination. The extreme reticence of the police has rendered it difficult to ascertain what new facts have come to their knowledge or whether they have any clue to the whereabouts of the body, but it is the impression of many well-informed persons that the body is concealed, if not at Dunecht, at least at Aberdeen, and that plunder, pure and simple, was the object of the crime. Since the outrage Mr. Allsop has received 800 anonymous letters, among which is the following, signed "Nabob ;" :—

Sir,—The body is still in Aberdeenshire. I can put you in possession of the same as soon as you bring some of the desperadoes who stole it to justice, so that I may know with whom I have to deal. I have no wish to be assassinated by resurrectionists, nor suspected by the public of being an accomplice in such dastardly work, which I most assuredly would be unless the guilty parties are brought to justice. Had Mr. Yeats acted on the hint I gave him last September he might have found the remains as though by accident and hunted up the robbers; but that chance is lost. So I hope you will find the men and make safe and prudent for me to find what you want. P.S.—Should they find that an outsider knows their secret, it (*sic*) may be removed to another place.

By instruction of the Procurator Fiscal, the vault at Dunecht was opened on Sunday, the object being to ascertain if the body had in the interval been replaced. It is understood, however, that the body was not found, nor did the place bear any signs of having been approached. One anonymous correspondent sent a series of five letters signed "Speculator." He introduced himself as the man who bought the body, and went the length of tabulating the items for its restoration, thus—Sum paid for body, £2,000; expenses of removing and keeping it, £3,000; personal expenses, £1,000; interest at 85 per cent., £5,100; total, £11,100. In another communication "Speculator" threatens to raise the price if the police are informed of his letters. He ridicules the idea that the perpetrators were Italians.

Spectacles versus Blindness.—One-fourth of those suffering from blindness can trace their calamity to the use of common spectacles or lenses imperfectly adapted to the sight. Mr. Henry Laurance, F.S.S., Oculist Optician, personally adapts his Improved Spectacles at his residence, 3, Endsleigh-gardens, Euston-square, London, daily (Saturdays excepted) ten to four Sir Julius Benedict writes :—"I have tried the principal Opticians in London without success, but your spectacles suit me admirably. The clearness of your glasses, as compared with others, is really surprising." Dr. Bird, Chelmsford, late Surgeon-Major, W.E.M., writes :—"I could not have believed it possible that my sight could have been so much improved and relieved at my age, 82. I can now read the smallest print, although suffering from cataract on the right eye." The Rev. Mother Abbess, St. Mary's Abbey, Hendon, says :—"The spectacles supplied to myself and several members of the Convent have given great satisfaction." Similar testimonials from John Woolcott, Esq., F.R.C.S., Founder of the Kent County Ophthalmic Hospital, Maidstone; Ven. Archdeacon Palmer, Clifton; Lieutenant-General Macmillen, Brentwood; the Rev. Joseph Hargreaves, Uxoridge-road, and hundreds of others. Mr. Laurance's Pamphlet, "Spectacles, their Use and Abuse," post free.

2/- TEA OF EXTRAORDINARY QUALITY,

As Supplied to Dukes, Earls, Barons, and the County Families of England.

THE unprecedented depression in the Tea Market now enables COOPER COOPER and CO. to offer such value in Tea as would, a few years ago, have been considered simply impossible, but is now a realised fact, for at

TWO SHILLINGS A POUND

COOPER COOPER and CO. are able to supply Tea of amazing strength and exquisite quality, while the choice kinds at Three Shilling a pound, which are coming to hand in lessening quantities year by year, COOPER COOPER and CO. have the greatest difficulty, after ransacking the markets of China and India, in procuring in sufficient quantities for their consumption. These choice and selected Teas COOPER COOPER and CO. have the honour to supply to many Foreign Princes, Potentates, Ambassadors, &c.

THE enormous success—without competitors and with no rivals—which has attended the sale of COOPER COOPER and CO.'S Teas is perhaps unparalleled in the annals of this or any other trade, and can only be accounted for by the way in which their business has been conducted, which has gained the patronage of all classes. COOPER COOPER and CO. number among their customers Princes, Dukes, Earls, Barons—in fact, a large per-centage of the entire Peerage—Church dignitaries of every grade, and ministers of all denominations, County families from every county in Great Britain, and from all classes of the community. COOPER COOPER and CO. are also shipping their Teas every day to foreign parts. Paris would appear to draw its supplies from COOPER COOPER and CO.'S Stores, and in almost every large city, and especially in the seaport towns of Europe, Asia, Africa, and America—in fact, to the very ends of the earth—COOPER COOPER and CO.'S Teas and COOPER COOPER and CO.'S name are known.

COOPER COOPER and CO. have their own Agents in China and India, and are consequently able to sell their Tea at a price which is actually under that which wholesale merchants, brokers, &c., charge to ordinary dealers. They are enabled to do this, as they have not the expense of travellers and no bad debts to provide for, their terms being strictly for nett cash before delivery. They also save an immense amount by keeping no horses and vans—many houses having from 20 to 100 horses, vans, and two men to each, to deliver, sometimes, half-a-pound of tea miles and miles away, this overwhelming expense having all to come out of the quality of the Tea.

COOPER COOPER and CO. have, in fact, no expense but indispensable rent and labour, which, in consequence of still-increasing business amount only to a fraction on the price of the Tea they sell.

COOPER COOPER and CO. may mention that they include among the regular buyers of their Tea a great many London Tea Brokers, from the simple fact that it can be purchased cheaper and better from them than from the importers themselves.

COOPER COOPER and CO. sell their Teas for ready money only. They have thus no provision to make for bad or doubtful debts.

AND now a word about this year's crop. It is hardly satisfactory on the whole, but some of the choice crops secured by COOPER COOPER and CO. are simply delicious. COOPER COOPER and CO. are still enabled to sell the very best at Three Shillings a pound, and it is veritably a marvel of goodness—a "thing of beauty" and "a joy for ever." But the most astonishing thing of modern times is the Tea at Two Shillings a pound which COOPER COOPER and CO. are now selling. The rich and wealthy buy this Tea. Ladies drink it in their boudoirs, and at their early drums, and as one of our country patrons writes, "It is lovely."

COOPER COOPER and CO. may add that

INDIAN TEA

is becoming day by day a greater favourite among the best judges, and this year's crop has been prepared with greater care than ever. It is strong, pungent, with most agreeable flavour, and the better it is known the more it will be liked.

THE TEA IS 3s. A POUND FOR THE BEST.

COOPER COOPER and CO. charge threepence a package (of any size) for delivering their Teas at any of the Railway Stations in London, or any place within the limits of the London Parcels Delivery Co., thus putting all on an equality: those who send for their Tea, and those who require it sent.

COOPER COOPER and CO. do not pay railway carriage, but are willing to compound for the same on receiving the sum of 9d., in addition to the price of the Tea, to any Railway Station in England, on quantities of the value of £2 and upwards. Families residing in the country can thus by clubbing together, have their Tea sent almost carriage free, as well as save about 9d. a pound in the cost.

COOPER COOPER & CO.,

50, King William Street, London Bridge; 63, Bishopsgate Street Within, E.C.; 268, Regent Circus, W.; 35, Strand (near Charing Cross), W.C.; 7, Westbourne Grove, London, W.

BIRTHS.

Feb. 23, the wife of the Rev. GEORGE HODGES, Vicar of Stoke-by-Nayland, of a son.

Feb. 23, at the Rectory, Darlaston, the wife of the Rev. BENJAMIN WRIGHT, M.A., of a daughter.

Feb. 24, at 11, Southwick-street, Hyde-park, the wife of CHARLES EDWIN TRUMAN, Esq., M.A., M.R.C.S., of a daughter.

Feb 24, at Little Amwell Vicarage, Hertford-heath, the wife of the Rev. CHARLES W. BARCLAY, of a daughter.

Feb. 25, at Wenhaston Vicarage, Suffolk, the wife of the Rev. RICHARD GATHORNE, of a son.

Feb. 25, the wife of R. H. ELLIOTT, Esq., M.A., Head Master of Rishworth Grammar School, Halifax—a daughter.

Feb. 27, the wife of F. T. PIGOTT, Barrister-at-law, of a son, who only survived his birth for a short time.

Feb. 27, at Everton Grange, the wife of Lieut.-Colonel T. GOFF, of a son.

Feb. 28, at Shuckburgh, the wife of Sir GEORGE SHUCKBURGH, Bart., of a son.

Feb. 28, the Hon. Mrs. KEPPEL, of a son.

Feb. 28, at the Precincts, Peterborough, the wife of the Rev. S. PHILLIPS, Precentor, of a son.

Feb. 28, at the Close, Winchester, the wife of the Rev. Canon WILBERFORCE, of a daughter.

March 2, at 43, Borough High-street, the wife of the Rev. W. THOMPSON, M.A., Chaplain of St. Saviour's Southwark, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Feb. 14, at the parish church, Moseley, the Rev. JOHN BOURNE NODDER, M.A., Rector of Ashover, Derbyshire, to MARY ELEANOR MARGARET, only surviving daughter of the late THOMAS COLMORE, Esq., of Ashfurlong, Sutton Coldfield.

Feb. 21, at the parish church, Bradford-on-Avon, ARTHUR WILLIAM, M.R.C.S., Surgeon to the Bristol Infirmary, &c., third son of A. PRICHARD, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.S., of Clifton, to SARAH ANN, eldest surviving daughter of W. ADYE, Esq., M.D., of Bradford-on-Avon.

Feb. 21 (Shrove Tuesday), at St. Gabriel's, Warwick-square, S.W., CHAS. T. PALMER, of Newland House, Glos., eldest son of the late Rev. Chas. Archdale Palmer, Rector of Wanlip, Leicestershire, to FRANCES RACHEL, widow of the Rev. RICHARD WINGFIELD DIGBY, Rector of Thornford, Dorset, and daughter of the late Chas. Wriothesley Digby, of Meriden, Warwickshire.

Feb. 25, at the parish church, Bromley, Middlesex, HENRY CHRISTOPHER, eldest son of the late Mr. HENRY CHATTERTON, of Blackwall, to SARAH MATILDA, only daughter of Mr. THOS. HAWKINS, of Bromley-by-Bow.

Feb. 28, at the Church of St. Lawrence Jewry, ALFRED HAYNES MASON, Surgeon, second son of Dr. Mason, F.R.G.S., of Finsbury-circus, to MARY JANE, daughter of the late ROBT. BINKS JORDISON, of South Ockenden, Essex, Surgeon.

DEATHS.

Feb. 17, at Mentone, Baron WALDENBURG, Chamberlain and Court Marshal to His Majesty the Emperor of Germany, in his 73rd year.

Feb. 17, at the Parsonage, Baillieston, N.B., the Rev. WM. EDWIN BRADSHAW, aged 38 years,

Feb. 19, at Brighton, CHARLES STEPHEN WHITEHILL, late Colonel 109th Regt., aged 64 years.

Feb. 20, THOMAS DEERE SALMON, Esq., of Lincoln's-inn, Barrister, and of Exeter College, Oxford, M.A., last surviving son of William Salmon, Esq., of Penllyne Court, Glamorganshire, in his 63rd year.

Feb. 21, at Cannes, South of France, the Rev. WM. ROBERTSON, D.D., Minister of the New Greyfriars Church, Edinburgh, in the 76th year of his age.

Feb. 22, at Downshire Cottage, Reading, OLIVIA MARY CASWALL, youngest daughter of the Rev. R. C. Caswall, late Vicar of West Lavington, Wilts, aged 57 years.

Feb. 22, at 19, Bury-street, St. James's, Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. DANIEL GREVILLE FINCH, in his 55th year.

Feb. 24, at Wyverstone, Suffolk, LORINA SUSANNA, wife of the Rev. THOMAS CLARKSON, Rector of Wyverstone, aged 66 years.

Feb. 24, at 44, Queen's-gardens, SALVADORA MAXWELL GORDON, sixth daughter of the late Admiral of the Fleet Sir James A. Gordon, G.C.B., Governor of Greenwich Hospital, much beloved.

Feb. 25, at the residence of her brother, the Rev. Richard Shepherd, Husborne Crawley, Beds, ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the late Rev. RICHARD H. SHEPHERD, of Chelsea, aged 81 years.

Feb. 26, at Bacres, Henley-on-Thames, the Hon. MARIA MARGARET STANLEY, eldest daughter of John Thomas, 1st Lord Stanley of Alderley, aged 84.

Feb. 27, at Brighton, Lord HENRY VERE CHOLMONDELEY, aged 47.

Feb. 27, the Hon. CATHERINE NUGENT, daughter of John, 2nd Viscount de Vesci, and widow of P. J. Nugent, Esq., of Portaferry, in the county of Down, in the 80th year of her age.

Feb. 28, at the residence of her son, Hedge End Vicarage, near Southampton, MARY SUSAN, wife of the Rev. JAMES E. NASH, late Vicar of Elberton, Gloucestershire, and formerly Vicar of St. Peter's, Clifton, Bristol, in her 77th year.

Feb. 28, at 30, Sloane-street, London, AIMEE, the wife of Lieut.-Colonel WILLIAM BANNATYNE.

March 2, at 30, Northampton-park, N., the residence of her youngest brother, ELIZABETH, daughter of the late Sir WM. HAMILTON, Bart., Professor of Logic and Metaphysics in the University of Edinburgh, aged 42.

LONDON THEATRES, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—CARL ROSA OPERA COMPANY. LAST WEEK.

(Seventh Morning Performance.) To-day (Saturday), March 4, Wagner's RIENZI. This (Saturday) evening, Sir Julius Benedict's LILY OF KILLARNEY. Monday, March 6, only evening performance of Wagner's RIENZI. Tuesday, March 7, last time of CARMEN. Carmen, a Gipsy, Miss Lilian La Rue; Don José, Mr. Fred C. Packard; Escamillo (Toreador), Mr. Ludwig; Il Remendado, Mr. Charles Lyall; Il Dancairo, Mr. Snazelle; Zuniga, Mr. Hervet D'Egville; Morales, Mr. Dudley Thomas; Pastia, Mr. Leahy; Paquita, Miss Giulia Warwick; Mercedes, Miss Clara Perry; and Michaela, Miss Julia Gaylord—Conductor, Mr. Alberto Randegger. Wednesday March 8, TANNHAUSER.

Orchestra stalls, 10s. 6d.; grand circle, 7s. 6d.; box seats, 5s.; amphitheatre stalls, 3s.; pit, 2s. 6d.; gallery stalls, 1s. 6d.; gallery, 1s.; private boxes, from 10s. 6d. to £3 3s. Pit books, containing 30 transferable tickets, £3. No restrictions as to evening dress. Doors open at 7.30; opera at 8.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.—This Evening, at 7.15, ROBINSON CRUSOE: Messrs. Arthur Roberts, Harry Jackson, Harry Nicholls, James Fawn, John D'Auban, Charles Lauri, jun., De Voy, Le Clerq, &c.; Mesdames Fanny Leslie, Amalia, D'Auban, Sisters Mario, DeVere, &c.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.—This Evening, at 8, OURS.

ADELPHI. — This Evening, at 8, TAKEN FROM LIFE. At 7.45, MY TURN NEXT.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—This Evening, THE LIGHTS O' LONDON. To be preceded, at 7, by A PHOTOGRAPHIC FRIGHT.

GAIETY THEATRE, STRAND.—To-night, at 7.5, Operetta; 7.20, Farce; 8.30, ALADDIN.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, COUSIN DICK. At 8.20, THE SQUIRE.

ROYAL STRAND THEATRE.—Every Evening, at 8, MANOLA. Preceded, at 7.15, by PARADISE VILLA.

PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.50, THE MARBLE ARCH. At 8.40 THE COLONEL.

GLOBE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 7.40, MANKIND.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Strand.—At 7.30, ON AN ISLAND. At 8, THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.

OPERA COMIQUE.—This Evening, at 8.30, MOTHER-IN-LAW. Preceded, at 7.45, by QUID PRO QUO.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, MY LITTLE GIRL. At 8.45, THE MANAGER.

ROYALTY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 9.30, PLUTO; or LITTLE ORPHEUS AND HIS LUTE. At 7.30, TEN MINUTES FOR REFRESHMENT. At 8.15 THE FAST COACH.

ROYAL COMEDY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, THE MASCOTTE. At 7.30, SEEING FROU FROU.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—This Evening at 8, the grand spectacular fairy opera, BLACK CROOK. Music by Mr. Fred Clay and Mons. G. Jacobi.

CRITERION THEATRE.—This Evening, FOURTEEN DAYS, new comedy in three acts, by H. J. Byron, in which Mr. Charles Wyndham will appear.

TOOLE'S THEATRE (late Folly).—This Evening, at 7.30, WAITING CONSENT. At 8.15, PAUL PRY. Conclude with DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

SAVOY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.30, the new æsthetic opera, PATIENCE. Preceded by, at 8, MOCK TURTLES.

NEW SADLER'S WELLS.—This Evening, at 7.30, CORSICAN BROTHERS. Followed by FAITHFUL HEART.

SURREY THEATRE.—THIS EVENING at 8, GREEN LANES OF ENGLAND. Preceded, at 7.30, by CHOPSTICKS AND SPIKINS.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate.—This Evening, at 8.10, Mr. Edgar Bruce's company in THE COLONEL. Preceded, at 7.30, by THE MARBLE ARCH.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Week ending March 11.

Monday—Evening Concert, by Mr. W. Lemare's Choir: F. Clay's LALLA ROOKH. Tuesday—Gilbert's Comedy, ENGAGED, under the direction of Mr. F. H. Macklin. Wednesday—Lecture by Dr. Zerffi on "Mahomet and the Mahometana." Evening Lecture by Professor Silvanus Thompson on "Electric Lights." Thursday — Robertson's Comedy, HOME, under the direction of Mr. F. H. Macklin. Friday—Orchestral Concert. Saturday—Saturday Concert.

DAILY—International Electric Exhibition. Palace Lighted Every Evening by Various Systems of Electric Light. Skating Rink. Panorama, painted by M. Philippoteaux (admission one shilling). Evening Concerts by the Paggi Concert and Elocutionist Party on Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday. Organ (Mr A. J. Eyre). Orchestral Concerts.

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FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.

31st March, 1880.

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Port, from first-class shippers	24s., 30s., 36s., 42s., 48s., per doz
Good Claret	14s., 18s., 20s., 24s., per doz
Choice Dessert Clarets	30s., 36s., 42s., 48s., 60s., per doz
Sparkling Champagne	36s., 42s., 48s., 60s., 78s., per doz
Hock and Moselle	24s., 30s., 36s., 42s., 48s., 60s., per doz
Old Pale Brandy	44s., 48s., 60s., 72s., 84s., per doz
Fine Old Irish and Scotch Whisky	42s., 48s., per doz

Wines in Wood.	Gallon.	Octave.	Qtr. Cask.	Hhd.
Good Sherry	11s. 6d.	£8 0 0	£15 10 0	£30 10 0
Choice Sherry	17s. 6d.	11 10 0	22 10 0	44 10 0
Old Sherry	23s. 6d.	14 15 0	29 0 0	57 0 0
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Old Port	20s. 6d.	13 15 0	27 0 0	53 0 0
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Indigestion.	Loss of Voice.	Gout.
Liver Complaints.	Asthma.	Constipation.
Neuralgia.	Bronchitis.	Mental and Physical Weakness.
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Nervous Exhaustion.	Epilepsy.	
Writer's Cramp.	Rheumatism.	

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THOUSANDS of Private Testimonials, bearing dates in close succession, vouch for their efficacy in cases where other remedies have failed. See Pamphlet, "GALVANISM NATURE'S CHIEF RESTORER OF IMPAIRED VITAL ENERGY," post free from

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GALVANISM v. INDIGESTION and SLUGGISH LIVER.

"Ardingly College, Hayward's Heath, 27th December, 1881.

"Gentlemen,—During last spring and the early part of the summer I suffered much from what my medical attendant specified as indigestion and a sluggish liver. At the beginning of August I procured one of your Galvanic Chain Bands and wore it during that month and September. As this is three months ago, and none of the symptoms have returned, I believe, and have every reason to hope, that my recovery is complete and permanent. You are quite at liberty to make what use you please of my letter—common justice demands it.—I am yours truly, "(Rev.) H. THOMS.

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LATEST NEWS.

Ismailia, March 3.

Her Majesty's corvette *Bacchante*, with the Princes Albert Victor and George of Wales on board, arrived here last night, and their Royal Highnesses consequently only landed this morning. At eleven o'clock the Princes, accompanied by Sir Edward Malet, the British Consul General, started for Cairo by a special train placed by the Khedive at their disposal.

Constantinople, March 2, Evening.

The Ambassadors of the Powers, except Russia, have received instructions from their respective Governments to come to an agreement among themselves, and subsequently with the Porte, with a view to fixing the amount of the tribute to be paid to the Porte by Bulgaria.

The Russian Government has not yet signified its intention of taking part in the negotiations.

St. Petersburg, March 3.

Intelligence from Irkutsk states that Lieutenant Danenhauer has lost the sight of the left eye, while the right is seriously endangered by the ophthalmic affection produced by the snow glare. He is consequently compelled to postpone his departure for St. Petersburg until the beginning of summer.

New York, March 3.

The accounts received here of the floods in the Western States hourly become more distressing. Mass meetings are being held in the inundated districts, at which appeals are made to the United States Government for relief.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

A prise of £3 3s. in money will be given at the end of each quarter to the solver of the greatest number of our Double Acrostics during the thirteen weeks. Solutions must reach the office not later than the Monday week following the date of publication, and must be signed with a distinct pseudonym, of not inordinate length. Ties will be guessed off the following quarter. Solutions must be addressed Acrostic Editor, *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street. Alternatives allowed to the number of three: anyone sending more to a single light will not be credited. In the case of a quotation, the word intended by the author must be given, even if others should answer the sense of the light.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 1.

(Twenty-fifth Quarter.)

1. F ool's-ca	P
2. R avenn	A
3. E rro	R
4. E ri	N
5. D ush kwo re sh	E
6. O w	L
7. M ai	L

"Fillip" has been allowed as an alternative for the first light.

Notes.—Light 4: Moore's *Irish Melodies*.—Light 5: Longfellow's *Hiawatha*.

Correct solutions have been received from Alice, Alga, Acme, Arab, Bruce, Conjecture, Cousins, Chestnut, Culverin, Dunstan, Etak, Gué de Roi, Gaffer, Hero, Hampton Courtier, Iris, Jib, Jumbo, Ketha, Knole, Katydid, Land o' Nod, Lathyra, Lance, M. A. E. B., Mrs. Mums, Mere Hasard, Noremac, Peewit, Persevere, Quis, Roslyn Roma, St. Chad, Sparks, Spero, Seaweed, Two Countesses, Wylmcote, Work, X, Ye Lyre, Zanga, and Zenobia. 43 correct, 21 incorrect—total, 64.

Sparks.—The Acrostic Editor will give personal supervision to the point referred to.

QUARTERLY LIST.

1.—A. Y., Althra, Bios, Dundonald, Enna, Owl, Pomeranian, Pup Dog Wow, Queenie, Roma, and S. O. F.
2.—Babino, and Work.
3.—Cave Lupum, and Lia.
4.—Arab, Barbara, and Cymro.
5.—Dinah, Libys, and Two Countesses.
6.—Alice, Chaverons, Pegasus, and Sappho.
7.—B. Forde, Cousins, Elsie, St. Chad, The Owl, Vieille Miss, and Zulus.
8.—Cipher, Dunstan, and Quis.
9.—Culverin, Chestnut, Magnet, Pirate King, Spero, and Zanga.
10.—Alga, Bruce, Conjecture, Hero, Iris, Sparks, X., and Tutamen.
11.—Peewit, Roslyn, Wylmcote, Zenobia, Etak, Hampton Courtier, Hadji, Jib, Ketha, Lavenrep, Land o' Nod, and M. A. E. B., Mac.
12.—Keene, Katydid, Lathyra, and Noremac.
13.—Knole.

It will be seen that the 24th Quarterly Prize has been gained by Knole. The Editor having earnestly considered the question, it appears to him that he cannot legislate backwards, and, as the number of alternatives has never been definitely limited, he is unable to take official cognisance of the abuse of the liberty allowed to his contributors. It appears from some of the letters received that the rule with regard to alternatives has been in one or two instances misunderstood, and it will henceforth be more clearly expressed. The meaning was that no answer except the right one would be allowed in cases of quotation, even if the alternatives answered the sense of the light equally well. In future the alternatives *will in any case be strictly limited to three.* —*Vide supra.*

Knole is requested to send name and address for publication.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 3.

(Twenty-fifth Quarter.)

Proem.

Welcome the stranger to our land,
So gracious, young, and fair,
Who comes to join the happy band
Of sisters gathered there.

1.

Invisible the feast *he* pressed
Upon his hungry, wond'ring guest.

2.

Had *he* his wish, soon upside down
Would be the monarch and the clown.

3.

Of Royal lineage *he* was not,
Tho' Emperor; then exiled, then shot.

4.

Despite of spots on this, the Solar ray
Ripens the crops which toiling man repay.

5.

Engaged, *he* deemed, in patriotic strife,
As rebel paid the forfeit with his life.

ERICA.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged between Philip Walker, Esq., of Prince's-gate, barrister-at-law, late 75th Regiment, and Miss Mary Beare, fourth daughter of Mrs. Beare, of Cromwell-road, and of the late Major Beare.

Also between Mr. Ernest Maxwell Willshire, 2nd Battalion Black Watch, son of the late Sir Thomas Willshire, Bart., and Miss Lilyan Davidson, elder daughter of Major-General Davidson.

Also between Mr. Edward Knight, only son of Mr. Knight, of Bilting House, Kent, and Miss Evans-Lombe, youngest daughter of Mr. Evans-Lombe, of Bylaugh Park, Norfolk.

Also between Miss Frances Long, fourth daughter of the late Mr. Richard T. Long, Rood Ashton, and Mrs. Long, of Marly, and sister of the present member for North Wilts, and Mr. De Windt, only surviving son of the late Mr. De Windt, of Blunsden Abbey, Wilts.

On Tuesday last, the 28th ult., was celebrated at St. Peter's Church, Cranley-gardens, South Kensington, the marriage of Mr. Cecil Stratford Paget, only son of the late General Lord Geo. Paget, K.C.B., with Miss Mary Erskine Wemyss, second daughter of the late Mr. Hay Erskine Wemyss, of Wemyss and Torre. The Duchess of Edinburgh and Princess Mary Adelaide, Duchess of Teck, graced the ceremony by their presence. The wedding party assembled at the church shortly after eleven o'clock, the bride arriving about half-past, accompanied by her brother, Mr. Randolph Erskine Wemyss, who afterwards gave her away. The bride was attended by four bridesmaids—namely, Miss Alexandra and Miss Guinevere Paget, Miss Kennedy Erskine (cousin of the bride), and Miss Rachel Byng. The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. Sydney Paget, who officiated as best man. The bride's dress was of white satin, profusely trimmed with Flemish point lace, orange blossoms and jasmine, the pointed corsage being cut square at the neck, and trimmed with pearl beaded lace; and over a wreath of orange blossoms she wore a lace veil, fastened by diamond ornaments. The bridesmaids were attired alike in very tasteful costumes. The Duchess of Edinburgh and Princess Mary Adelaide signed the register. The wedding party and friends afterwards reassembled at Mrs. Erskine Wemyss's residence, the Clock House, Chelsea Embankment, where a sumptuous breakfast was served to a large circle. Subsequently Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Paget left town for Luton Hoo, Mrs. Gerald Leigh's delightful residence in Bedfordshire. The bride's travelling dress was of gendarme blue cloth, fastened with steel buttons; the skirt was short, and the tunic looped up on one side with bows of satin sublime; bonnet, with feathers, mantle, and muff, all to correspond. The bridal presents were extremely numerous, and included costly articles of jewellery, plate, and furniture.

The Marchioness of Abergavenny held her first reception on Wednesday evening, which was very fully attended. The guests were received at the top of the staircase by the Marchioness and Lady Alice Nevill. In addition to the fine suite of drawing-rooms, the large ball-room, with the rooms leading to it, were crowded during the evening, refreshments being served in the ball-room. Among the company were the Turkish Ambassador and Mdlle. Musurus, the Netherlands, Belgian, and Swedish Ministers, the Duchess of Cleveland, Countess Gleichen, and Countess Feodore Gleichen, Marchioness of Salisbury, and Lady G. Cecil, Earl and Countess Stanhope, Earl and Countess of Wharncliffe, Earl and Countess Galloway, Countess Sondes and Lady M. Miles, Countess Delawarr, Countess of Arran and Lady M. Gore, Viscountess Bury, Lady Howard de Walden, Viscount Hawarden and Hon. Miss Maude, Lady Conyers, and the Hon. Mr. Lane Fox, Lord and Lady Sandys, Baroness Burdett-Coutts and Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett-Coutts, Colonel and Lady C. Hardy, &c. The Marchioness of Abergavenny wore black satin trimmed with lace; crimson flowers and diamond ornaments. Lady A. Nevill white and silver brocade bodice and paniers over spotted tulle; Countess Gleichen dark green satin with headdress of variegated leaves; Countess Feodore Gleichen pale blue damassé bodice and tunic over kilted satin skirt; Lady Poltimore black dress embroidered in gold; Countess Sondes wore a dress covered with magnificent old lace; Baroness Burdett-Coutts, black satin and velvet with red flowers; Lady Hothfield a pale blue satin, with white lace. The Countess of Wharncliffe wore a magnificent parure of turquoise and diamonds, with cream-coloured satin brochó costume. The Lady Cecily Hardy, black tulle and satin, trimmed with shaded violets. Many of the *débutantes* who had been presented in the morning were at the Marchioness of Abergavenny's, and were mostly dressed in white.

The Earl and Countess Stanhope entertained at dinner on Saturday, at their residence in Grosvenor-place, the Duke and Duchess of Leeds, Earl and Countess Delawarr, Viscount and Viscountess Hood, Lord Windsor, Lord Ashley and Hon. Margaret Ashley, Right Hon. Sir Michael and Lady Lucy Hicks-Beach, Hon. Helen Henniker, Sir Massey and Lady Lopes, Colonel Wynne Finch, and M. de la Chauvenière. Later in the evening the Countess had a reception, which was numerously and fashionably attended, and at which there were some tasteful toilets. The hostess wore a dress of cream and gold brocade with white lace draped across the front, and ornaments of gold filigree in the hair and on the neck. The Duchess of Leeds wore black. Viscountess Hood wore an entirely white toilet composed of satin, with overdress of brocade, and trimming of pearls; a small coiffure of lace was worn. A pink brocade was exceeding bouffante at the back; it was made as a low square, and had a plastron of cream satin brocaded in silver. Dowager Marchioness of Waterford wore black with red trimming and bouquets of scarlet geranium on the left side of the bodice. Julia Countess of Jersey wore a black dress with tablier of white, brocaded with large flowers of black velvet; the small paniers were of striped black and red silk, and the centre of the train was also black and red. Lady Romilly had a pretty dress of cream satin striped with rows of tiny Pompadour flowerets. Viscountess Strangford wore black with tablier of white silk made with puffs separated by rows of gauging. Hon. Mrs. Ralph Dutton wore black satin with trimming of jet. Lady Maria Ponsonby had a dress of sea-green silk covered with white lace, and a white lace fichu was worn over the low bodice; her daughter wore white. Lady Chelmsford was in black made with a low bodice, and wore handsome diamonds. Mrs. Walter Farquhar was in white satin and lace, and wore diamonds in her hair. Hon. Lady M'Garel Hogg wore dark ruby satin. A grey satin brocade was handsome with trail of violet velvet pansies fastened with diamonds on the bodice. Hon. Ellen Chetwynd wore crimson satin. Miss Grant a white dress with paniers of white gauze striped with green and dark green bodice. Hon. Mrs. Eric Barrington wore black with large bouquet of pink roses on the left side. Mrs. Farmer wore a low dress of a vivid shade of pink; her daughter was in white.

Lady Louisa Mills gave a dance on the 25th ult. at Camelford House, Park-lane, which was fashionably attended. The Countess of Rosslyn looked well in a dress of black beaded tulle, caught up with bunches of jet and trimmed with bands of black velvet, jet fringe, and a large cluster of China roses; the bodice was of black velvet, the front and sleeves being embroidered with jet and trimmed with a deep jet fringe. Lady Alice Thynne wore a graceful dress of white tulle, with a Gitana sash of white satin, edged with a pearl fringe; the bodice was of white shamrock-figured satin, trimmed with tulle and pearls. A blue satin dress had the front covered with frills, over each of which fell a narrow silver fringe; a scarf of blue and silver gauze encircled the hips and fell in long ends on the back of the skirt; the coat bodice was of blue and silver brocade, and a spray of damask roses was worn on the left side; diamonds in the hair. A vieil-or satin was handsomely trimmed with scarves of black Spanish blonde; these crossed in front, and each crossing was caught together by a large spray of shaded velvet pansies; the skirt formed a multiplicity of puffs at the back, among which the ends of the lace scarves were gracefully arranged; a tuft of pansies was fastened to the hair by a diamond arrow.

The Prince and Princess of Wales gave a children's party at Marlborough House, on the occasion of the fifteenth birthday of their eldest daughter, the Princess Louise. The Royal children and their friends assembled at four o'clock in the afternoon, and were first entertained by a little fellow called "The Pocket Vance," who sang several national songs in appropriate costume. This was followed by a sleight-of-hand performance, characteristic sketches by a minstrel troupe, and some riding feats on the tricycle by a lady. The children then adjourned for tea, after which the amusements were resumed, and such old-fashioned pastimes were played as hunt the slipper, hunt the ring, fox and hounds, post, musical chairs, &c. Two large bran pies followed, into which all the young people had a dip, bringing forth at each venture a handsome present. The Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, all joined heartily in the games, which terminated about eight o'clock.

The marriage of Mr. Cane, Royal Artillery with Miss Eva Mackintosh, second daughter of Dr. Mackintosh, of St. Julian's, Malta, was solemnised on the 1st inst. at St. George's, Hanover-square. The bride wore a lovely toilet of white moire, trimmed with paniers of Brussels lace, caught down with sprays of orange blossom, her veil being fastened with the same flowers and diamonds, and she carried an enormous bouquet of choice flowers; she was attended by her niece, Miss Eva Greenall, her only bridesmaid, a little girl of eight, who wore pale pink Surah, trimmed with narrow white lace, and pink plush bonnet to match; a handsome brooch and large bouquet, both presented by the bridegroom. Afterwards Colonel and Mrs. Fenton Greenall (the bride's sister and brother-in-law) received the bride and bridegroom and about twenty guests, at breakfast, at St. James's Hotel, Piccadilly. Shortly after breakfast Mr. and Mrs. Cane left town for Brighton. The bride's travelling dress was green velvet and cashmere, hat and muff to match. The wedding was very quiet, owing to the unavoidable absence of the bride's father and mother.

The village of Waterloo, Hants, presented a gay appearance on the 21st ult., in honour of the marriage of Capt. Carter, R.N., commanding H.M.S. *Hector*, with Miss Alina Catherine Loftus Tottenham, eldest daughter of Capt. John Francis Tottenham, R.N., which was celebrated at St. George's. The bride's dress was of ivory moire, with train of ivory satin, trimmed with lace; wreath of orange blossoms, myrtle, and jessamine; tulle veil, fastened with pearl spray; she carried a bouquet of choice white flowers. The three bridesmaids wore pink, trimmed with cream lace, and Surah silk sashes, with caps of the same, with veils; each carried a bouquet, and wore a silver chain with pendant, consisting of a wheel and compass, the gift of the bridegroom.

Lord Bennet intends giving the Duke of Albany a remarkably fine bull's head, from one of the Chillingham wild cattle, as a wedding present. Mr. Ward, of Piccadilly, has had the mounting of this fine object, and has done it justice.

Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson, and Hodge on Wednesday concluded a two days' sale of a collection of autographs and literary documents, which fetched large prices. Among the most important were a letter of Samuel Taylor Coleridge to George Dyer, acknowledging some help "sufficient to extricate him from his difficulties" (one guinea); an order and another document signed by the Protector Cromwell (three guineas and £2 7s.); a warrant signed by Queen Elizabeth (three guineas); Charles Dickens, dated Devonshire-terrace, Dec. 16, 1839 (£2 10s.); Benjamin Franklin (£4 15s.); David Garrick, relating to his power of mimicking King George III. (£5 10s.); Dr. Johnson, dated from Pembroke College, Oxford, only a few months before his death (£2 8s.); three letters of Charles Lamb realised £1 3s., 13s., and £3 respectively; a letter of Lord Nelson to Lady Hamilton was knocked down at £8 15s.; one of Alexander Pope at £7; and one of Matthew Prior at 13 guineas. There were several letters of Shelley, Sheridan, Southey, Horace Walpole, George Washington, Lawrence Sterne, John Wilkes, David Hume, Lord Chatham, Thomas Campbell, Sir Walter Scott, Wordsworth, Byron, and Burns, for which large prices were obtained. Several original MSS. of poems by Thomas Moore fetched prices from 5 guineas to £24; and the autograph MS. of Thackeray's *Chronicle of the Drum* fell to the hammer at £20.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Commons Sir S. Northcote rose and said:—I would like to ask if the Home Secretary can give any more information to the House in regard to the late atrocious attempt made on the life of her Majesty?

Sir W. Harcourt,—I do not know that I can add any material facts to those I stated last night. It is very desirable than anybody in a responsible position should not state anything that has not been distinctly proved in evidence. The state of the case is this. By my desire the Solicitor of the Treasury attended this morning at Windsor in order that he may conduct the prosecution of the inquiry in this case. He has also the assistance of Sir James Ingham, the senior magistrate at Bow-street, in order that he may have the benefit of his great experience in the conduct of the case. The prisoner was remanded in order that further and fuller evidence should be obtained, and of course time would be taken to consider the charges that ought to be preferred. That is the actual legal position of matters up to this moment. The only other fact that I can properly mention now is that this morning the bullet was found which is supposed to have been discharged from the pistol found near the railway-station, and that, of course, is a material circumstance. That, I think, is all I can feel at liberty to state in reference to the facts which have come to my knowledge. With regard to the second question of the right hon. gentleman, I have to state that having had the honour of an audience with Her Majesty this morning, I am able to state that Her Majesty has not suffered in health from the atrocious circumstances of yesterday. (Loud cheers.) Her Majesty expressed her extreme satisfaction at the messages from all parts of the country, and I may say from all parts of Europe, which she received, of congratulation and satisfaction at Her Majesty's escape. (Loudch eers.)

There was some expectation that in the House of Lords last night an allusion would have been made by the leaders of both parties to the dastardly attempt to assassinate Her Majesty. We believe, however, that there is no precedent for this course having been adopted on any former occasion under similar circumstances.

Throughout the past week various statements have been made—some of them with an air of pretended authority—to the effect that the Select Committee of the House of Lords appointed to consider the working of the Irish Land Act have offered, or are intending to offer, a compromise, with a view to enabling Mr. Gladstone to withdraw the resolution which he has proposed in the House of Commons. To all these statements we are able to give a complete and unqualified contradiction. What has actually happened is simply that an explanation has been offered to the Government, stating the limits within which the Select Committee will extend its inquiry. It is no part of the Committee's function to sit as a Court of Appeal from the Irish Land Courts. The explanation in question was only rendered necessary by the persistent efforts of Mr. Gladstone to misrepresent the aim and object of the inquiry instituted by the Peers. But of compromise we can positively affirm there will be, and can be, none.

The result of the Northampton election has been, in many quarters, largely attributed to want of Conservative organisation. Our own opinion, based on private information, is that this may be true to a certain extent; but we are more than satisfied that Mr. Corbett did personally all that could be done to win the contest—witness the very large number of votes polled for him on Thursday.

Mr. Bradlaugh went down to the House of Commons last night, but retired on learning that the writ from Northampton had not yet been returned. He announces his intention of presenting himself to take the oath next Monday. There exists some doubt as to whether the resolution of the House of Commons which precluded his taking the Oath of Allegiance is still in force after his re-election. We understand that, if necessary, and in the event of the Leader of the House again declining to take action in the matter, Sir Stafford Northcote will once more move that Mr. Bradlaugh be not permitted to take the Oath.

We announced three months ago that the two leading representatives in the Ministry of the Revolutionary-Radical party were sorely exercised on the subject of the Duke of Albany's allowance, in consequence of the representations of their Radical constituents reminding them of the action which they had taken on similar occasions in past years, at a time when they occupied a position of "greater freedom and less responsibility." After much casting about for a friend to help them in their difficulty, by organising an "independent" opposition to the vote, they have now, we learn, obtained the valuable assistance of Mr. Labouchere.

London bibliophiles will learn with regret the death of Fontaine, the famous dealer of the Passage du Panoramas, whose immense stock of rarities made the collector's month water. Fontaine, was the first man in Paris to run the book-trade on the same speculative Stock Exchange system as the picture-dealers. With customers like the Rothschilds and the Duc d'Aumale, he was able to carry out some grand strokes; for instance, at a recent sale he paid 10,000 francs for a copy of the *Baisers de Dorat*, which he immediately resold to the Duc d'Aumale for 18,000 francs. Sometimes, however, he was less happy in his bargains. At the Didot sale in 1878 he paid 76,000 francs for a Missal of Charles VI., which is, we believe, still in the shop.

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